

The LONDON MAGAZINE:



Or, GENTLEMAN's Monthly Intelligencer.

For DECEMBER, 1772.

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With the following Embellishments,

1. An elegant Engraving of the Head of NICOLAS MACHIAVEL.
2. A curious Representation of The STATE HACKNEY-COACH. And,
3. No. XV. of NEW MUSIC.

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NICHOLAS MACHIAVEL.

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LONDON MAGAZINE:

For DECEMBER, 1772.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

Some Account of NICOLAS MACHIAVEL.*

(With his Head elegantly engraved.)



NICOLAS Machiavel was born at Florence on the third day of May, 1469. His father's name was Bernardo; his mother's, Bartolommea. They were both descended from illustrious families, which had always born the most honourable offices under the republic from its first foundation to the time of which we are writing: tho' it is said to be now almost two ages since the family of Machiavel became extinct, there is one of his descendents still living at Florence, whose name is Giambattista, and whose works prove him to be a learned man.

Though it is known that Bernardo Machiavel, the father of our author, studied jurisprudence; and that his mother Bartolommea dedicated her time to the Muses; yet it is impossible, at this remote time, to discover what education they bestowed upon their son: but we may conclude, from the great number of writings which he left behind him, that he was bred to a very hardy temperament of body, to which he joined the most intense application in his studies. It appears by his writings that he was averse from indolence, was very active, studious, and had a heart inclining rather to boldness than to gentleness. Authors pretend to assure us, that being once suspected of hatching a conspiracy against the family of the Medici, he was adjudged by the senate to undergo a very grievous punishment which was common in these times, and that he suffered it without betraying one im-

pression of pain or fear, with his countenance as serene and unruffled as usual: which, if true, was no bad proof of that firm and undaunted spirit which is visible in every page of his works.

It has been common, for the two last ages, to consider Machiavel as a great historian and politician; and some have regarded him as a complete master in the art of war. Nevertheless, neither his history of Florence, nor his discourse upon Titus Livius, nor his Prince, nor his letter to Pope Leo, displays so truly the real bent of his genius as his treatise on the military art. I have read several books which treat this art in detail, particularly French, and it is strange that I have never seen any mention of Machiavel made in them, altho' it is certain that the most important and material rules contained in these books were borrowed from his treatise on the art of war. It is true, his ideas might have been extended or refined by succeeding writers, in proportion to the progress of the improvement of the art; but all of them, in some degree or other, have reared their fabrics upon the foundation which was laid by him, and have only improved the materials which he extracted from the ignorance of a barbarous age. Nor would it be difficult to prove, that the custom, now so universal, of resting the whole strength of war upon the infantry rather than the cavalry, was derived from him. This improvement holds the first place in the art of war; and that it should have originated from Machiavel is astonishing,

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* Translated from M. Baretti's new edition of his works.

astonishing, when we consider two things; first, that he never was a soldier; and secondly, that in his time the infantry of an army was held in great contempt. Never to have borne arms, and yet to have published an open declaration against an established custom, and to be successful too against prejudice and opinion, was a triumph worthy of the genius of Machiavel; and proves that he was not conspicuous as a historian and politician only, but that he was eminently so in the art of war also.

To these three distinguished titles we may add that of statesman; that is, a *practical* politician, in opposition to the theory of the study. How lucky was it for the world, that there were found (in I know not what library) and published, those letters which he wrote during his different ambassies at foreign courts, and those which he dictated in quality of secretary to the republic! By the first we discover how great were his diligence, his penetration, his acuteness, his address, his art in fathoming the human soul. We must dive deeply into these letters, to discover the extraordinary talents with which nature had endued him, and what good use he made of them; how he managed and restrained the cruel disposition of the brutal Duke Valentine, and drew forth from his deceitful soul the most secret designs, the most concealed plots, always opposing his dark impostures with the most artful simplicity, and fathoming his very soul; how he bridled the turbulent spirit of that other miscreant, John Paul Baglioni, continually counteracting him, outwitting him, and alarming his perfidious heart with such terrors as would have prevented him from his daring designs, had it been possible for any man to effect such a miracle; how he knew to wind himself into the humour of that terrible pope, Julian II. to flatter him, to gain his good graces, and to win him to the best interests of his republic. How unlucky it is, that we are ignorant of his negotiations with the emperor, and with the king of France, to whose courts he had been deputed; and that we have not in our possession those discourses which he made to so many princes with whom he was engaged on public affairs, and

of those harangues by which he roused his fellows citizens to act against the foes of his country!

By the second [letters, which he wrote in quality of secretary to the republic] we discern how the public councils were elucidated by his understanding, and with what address he formed all his projects, and enticed every one to act the part in them which he had allotted for them; how he directed even the inferior members of the state with most artful policy, here exercising his persuasion, and there his authority; encouraging, rewarding, exhorting, praising, blaming, reprimanding, in every instance exactly conforming to the time, the business, the circumstances, and the persons.

Let us recollect all these truths together, let us weigh them carefully, and let us consider Machiavel as a simpleton! which many very sagacious monks have been pleased to do, and in particular the jesuit Lucchesini!—In truth, it is not contended that he was possessed of good morals.—But that he was a simpleton!—Good heaven! one must be a monk indeed, to advance so impossible a falsehood.

Exclusive of that train of close and serious thinking which was necessary to discharge the duties of the important employment that he held, Machiavel possessed so refined a gaiety, so much good humour, so various and so sprightly, that he seemed to have two souls in one body; one entirely serious, and the other entirely comic. Let those who affect to be so enraptured with the Decameron, read attentively his tale of Belfegore, and let them tell me whether there is in the first any tale that can be compared with the latter, whether we consider it with respect to the singular invention displayed in it, the ease and humour of the thoughts, which blend so gracefully with each other, or the correct elegance of the stile; inasmuch that, if Machiavel had taken the trouble to compose a number of these tales, it is very probable that Boccace would not have held the first rank as a novelist.

And what shall we say of his comedies? How admirably are the unities of action, time, and place, united in them! What natural characters are displayed in them! What well-conceived intrigues, and how happily unravelled

unravell'd! And the whole is so finely expressed in a chaste and lively stile, with such abundance of wit, and forms so enchanting an assemblage, that the attention is roused, the heart is interested, the soul is charmed, and we forget that we are only reading a comedy. Let us therefore exclaim with the reverend father Lucchesini, and half a million of other monks --- let us exclaim, in the name of truth, "Machiavel was a simpleton! O what a simpleton!"-----Simpletons indeed!

We can discover by the writings of Machiavel that he passed the greatest part of his life in severe study, continually engaged either in topics interesting to mankind, or in the zealous and honourable service of his country. Most authors who have written of him have affirmed, that he lived and died poor; but as the ideas of poverty and riches are relative to the respective circumstances of people, it seems to me that the word *poor* is very improperly applied to a citizen of Florence, who, like Machiavel, (as appears by the will which he made five years before his death) possessed a good house free from all charges, a vineyard,

fields, and thickets, from all which he was furnished with every necessary for himself and family, without being obliged to the good-will of his neighbours.

I have already mentioned the time of his birth. He died on the 22d day of June, 1527, in the 58th year of his age. In his last moments he evinced the most friendly dispositions to the christian faith, without murmuring against heaven or its decrees, as has been insinuated by the lying Lucchesini and his abettors; which may be incontestibly proved by a letter written by one of his sons to a near relation of his father's. The original is still preserved, and is to the following purport ---

"Most dear Francis,

I cannot refrain from tears, in telling you that my father died the 22d of this month of a cholic, occasioned by a medicine which he had taken two days before. He confessed his sins to father Matteo, who continued with him till his death. Our father has left us in great poverty, as you shall know. When you return hither, I shall tell you every thing. I am, &c. June, 1527. PIETRO MACHIAVELLI."

THE BRITISH THEATRE.

FOR DECEMBER.

SINCE our last, the theatrical managers have ventured to draw out some of their literary stores, but with indifferent success. This age, it seems, will not be distinguished for dramatic composition.

DRURY - LANE.

Two new pieces have made their appearance at this theatre --- *The Rose*, and the *Duel*.

The first of these was exhibited on the 2d of December. It was a musical piece --- for now it exists no more. Like the frail flower whose name it bore, it opened its leaves, blushed, and died.

From the just impatience of the audience, and the great confusion in the theatre, it was impossible for us to glean the fable of this hapless piece: perhaps it did not deserve to be repeated. The whole exhibited the most grotesque appearance we remem-

ber ever to have seen: the lowest humour was connected with the most unnatural characters, and nonsense triumphed over every thing. --- This will be sufficient to convince our readers that we ought to dismiss the subject.

An Oxford student was charged with the birth of this sinful bantling. Dr. Arne avowed the music of it; and, to give the devil his due, let him take the rest of it too, for to him it certainly belonged. The music was good, and we are glad to hear it will not be lost; for it will be offered to the world once more, tacked to a new piece.

The title of this piece, and the unhappy fate of it, were good subjects for punning. This did not escape the attention of the wicked wits, who would not suffer even a *Rose* to wither in the shade. Among other things were the following.

The

The ROSE. A Poetical Nofegay.

A poetical florist had rear'd up a rose,
And brought it to market for sale;
But the public, who smelt at it, turn'd up
their nose,

And swore it was damnably stale.

The critical mildews in tempests descended,
And lo! 'twas in piteous case:

The moment it's life was begun--it was ended;
It stunk, and was kick'd from the place.

On the same.

Thy rose, dull A--ne! was not the garden's
pride:

It budded, hung its little head, and dy'd.

On Tuesday the 8th of December,
the *Duel*, a comedy, written by Mr.
O'Brien, was exhibited at this theatre.
As this was a piece of more conse-
quence than the former, we shall give
it a more patient hearing----though
their fate was similar. We shall there-
fore present our readers with a sketch
of the fable.

Mr. Melvil, (a	}	Mr. Barry.
banker) - - -		
George Melvil (his	}	Mr. Reddish.
son) - - -		
Mr. Barford, - -	}	Mr. Brereton.
Sir Dermot O'Lein-		
ster,	}	Mr. Moody.
Captain O'Leinster,		
Hargrave, (Mr.)	}	Mr. Davis.
Melvil's cashier)		
Scotch Servant, -	}	Mr. King.
Sir Dermot's Coach-		
man, - - -	}	Mr. W. Palmer.
Servants, - - -	}	Mr. Weston.
	}	Mr. Wright and
Mrs. Melvil, - -	}	Mr. Griffiths.
Miss Melvil, - -		
Maria, - - - -	}	Mrs. Hopkins.
Lady Margaret Sin-	}	Miss Jarrat.
clair, - - - -		
	}	Mrs. Barry.
	}	Miss Young.

Lord Sinclair, a Scottish nobleman,
after various misfortunes, arrived at
London, and assumed the fictitious
name of Johnstone. Soon after his
arrival he was introduced into the fa-
mily of a Mr. Melvil, a banker, who
was so well pleased with his excellent
qualities, that at his death he left him
his wealth, and his name, which he
immediately assumed. In the course
of his prosperity he had married; and
we find, in the fable, that his family
consisted of a son, a daughter, and
Maria, the daughter of his friend,
whom he had taken under his protec-
tion.

The play opens with a scene be-

tween Hargrave and Maria, from
whose conversation we understand that
the latter is violently in love with
young Melvil, and that Miss Mel-
vil is preparing to be married to Mr.
Barford. But all the joys of this mar-
riage are blasted by an unlucky duel,
in which young Melvil was engaged;
and it is this alone which creates the
distress throughout the whole piece.
This young gentleman, who is an
officer in the foot guards, overheard,
in a coffee-house, an officer of the
horse throw out many disrespectful ex-
pressions against citizens, and against
bankers in particular. Jealous of his
own and his father's honour, he con-
verted the application to his own fa-
mily, and took up the quarrel. A
scuffle ensued, but they were parted;
a private appointment, however, was
afterwards made between them, to
meet at the Ring in Hyde Park at three
in the afternoon of the next day. From
reports, and various other circum-
stances, the affair of the duel is sus-
pected in the family of Melvil; and
his father, when he retires to bed,
takes with him the keys of the house,
to prevent his son's getting out with-
out his knowledge. As he suspected,
about midnight the young gentleman
appears booted, and with pistols in
his hand, ready to set off; for though
the business of the duel was not to
take place till the afternoon, he chose
the time of darkness for his escape,
to prevent interruption, and confusion
in the family. Finding the doors locked,
he ventures to apply to Hargrave for
the keys, by whom he is informed, that
they are in the possession of Mr. Melvil,
his father. He even prevails upon Mr.
Hargrave to go to his father's chamber
for, as the young gentleman himself
very shrewdly observes, "if he can-
not get out of the house, he must stay
in it." Hargrave goes, and the keys
are brought in by--his father. Much
confusion ensues on his side; but an
explanation is now unavoidable. After
a long scene between the father and
the son, the subject of which is duel-
ling, the father, committing every-
thing to his son's honour, delivers the
keys to him, leaving him to act as he
pleases. Young Melvil, however,
the moment he received the keys, set
off. This was not what the father
expected, and when he is informed

it, he reproaches himself for having put it in his power. Seeing the duel now unavoidable, he orders Hargrave to repair to the appointed place at the appointed time, to inform him of the event of it: if his son's rival falls, he gives him notes to a considerable sum, to be delivered to his son in order to facilitate his immediate escape; if his son falls, Hargrave is to return, and, to prevent the alarming of the family, he is to communicate his intelligence by giving three distinct knocks upon the door.

This interval, so dreadful to the father, is filled up partly by the insignificant business of the other characters, and partly by Sir Dermot O'Leinster, who is come to wait upon Mr. Melvil by a previous appointment. Here ensues a long scene of nonsense; at length, however, Sir Dermot informs the Banker, that his business with him is to get some notes discounted, which is immediately done. After this, in the course of general conversation, Sir Dermot drops a hint that he has a son in town, who is gone to fight a duel. In the midst of the surprise which this information occasioned to Melvil, his confusion is greatly heightened by hearing the three fatal knocks at the door. Overwhelmed with grief, he wishes Sir Dermot to retire, and Hargrave enters with the news that both the young gentlemen were killed---for he saw their hats fall off. They had not long given vent to their pathetic powers, when Sir Dermot enters, followed by the two young gentlemen who were supposed dead; from whom we learn, that young Melvil having fired his pistol in the air, they both alighted, embraced, and became friends.---More we could not learn; for the rest of this incredible history was buried in an universal and well deserved---*bisping*.

We have here recited the general story of this piece, which the author ought to have kept "nine years" at least in his own possession. The vigor of it may probably be confirmed by our readers, when we inform them that only three characters had any business in the piece. The rest of them were employed in entering, exiting, bowing, curtesying, and that minute trifling which is so

fashionable upon the theatre of France. In a word, the author was bewildered in a French mist, and it led him astray.

With respect to the characters, we suppose the author did not wish us to believe that any of them was original, at least we could not perceive the least trace of originality in them. Indeed, we may say of them what Pope said of women ---

"Most of them had no character at all."

The play was professedly sentimental, and yet there were few sentiments to be boasted of. The most valuable were contained in the scene between Mr. Melvil and his son; and had they not been before repeated by the French and English moralists, we should have received them with great respect.

But we are talking of the dead.

COVENT-GARDEN.

At this theatre a new farce of two acts, called *Cross Purposes*, written by Mr. O'Brien also, was performed for the first time on the 5th of December. Since that time it has been performed several nights. The fable is as follows.

Mr. Beville, -	Mr. Thompson.
Counsell. Beville, -	Mr. Perry.
Captain Beville, -	Mr. Wroughton.
Mr. Grubb, -	Mr. Shuter.
Chapeau, - -	Mr. Lewes.
Robin, - - -	Mr. Dyer.
Consol, - - -	Mr. Quick.
Mrs. Grubb, -	Mrs. Green.
Miss Grubb, -	Mrs. Bulkley.
Jenny, - - -	Mrs. Kniveton.

THE fable of this little piece is as follows: It commences with Robin's entering the house of Captain Beville, soon after which a conversation ensues between him and Jenny, one of the maids, relative to the lives of people of fashion. Jenny retires, and is succeeded by Chapeau, the captain's servant, who is represented as aping all the extravagant follies of his betters. He informs Robin, that *he* and his master were reduced very low in their finances by an unsuccessful run of play; and that *they* will be obliged to marry to fill up the breach. After much more display of fashionable fopperies, the two servants part. In the

The next scene the counsellor calls upon his brother the captain, and they inform each other that they are about to marry, from motives of necessity, but do not mention whom they fixed upon as the object of their choice.

Mr. Grubb now enters, by whom we understand, that the whole study of his life was to amass an immense fortune, which now costs him abundance of trouble in keeping together. He also laments that he has a wife that contradicts him, and a daughter that is unmarried. He is then joined by Consol, his broker, with whom he does some business. After him enters Mrs. Grubb, whom he informs, that he has fixed upon a husband (Mr. Beville) for their daughter, and begs her advice. As usual, she violently opposes his choice, and much altercation ensues; for she assures him, that she too had fixed upon one (meaning the counsellor) and that her choice must be preferred. She then enquires who the man was he had pitched on; to which he replies, Mr. Beville, of Lincolnshire. She is greatly surprised at this, thinking him to be her own identical choice, and accordingly informs him, that she too had fixed upon Mr. Beville, of Lincolnshire, for the happy man. Rejoiced at this union of sentiment, their daughter Emily is called to be informed of it. This young lady expresses a strong sense of duty to her parents, but declares she has disposed of her heart already, and hopes they will not force her to recall it. Chagrined at this, they enquire who the man is; and she answers without hesitation, that it is Mr. Beville, of Lincolnshire (meaning the captain). Here again the deception takes place, and they congratulate each other on having selected the same person for their choice. Doubts, however, arising, Mrs. Grubb asks her husband what kind of man Mr. Beville is; he answers, a handsome black man.---Nay, replies the lady, that is not the case, for he is a handsome fair man. The dispute is then referred to the decision of the daugh-

ter, who says that he is neither the one nor the other, but in the medium. Each, however, is still positive of being in the right, and Grubb says he'll soon prove what he says to be true, for he expects every minute Mr. Beville to call upon him; and he is immediately informed of his arrival. At this time too Mrs. Grubb had appointed the counsellor to call upon her; and Emily's assignation with the captain was fixed to this critical juncture also. In short, the three brothers enter almost all at the same time, and confusion, surprise, and astonishment, ensue. But the matter is soon explained; and the two elder brothers, finding that the captain was really the young lady's favourite, willingly resign in his favour, which concludes the piece.

A fatality attends this author's productions. He deals deeply in theatric damnation. He seems to have been born to torment, and to be tormented.

It is true that this little piece has been suffered to be exhibited several nights, but contrary to the wishes of every good critic. An incident trifling in itself, and rendered ridiculous by the author's description of it, is the hinge upon which the whole piece moves---we mean, the error of mistaking the three brothers for each other. It belongs to the theatre of France, and did not deserve to be carried cross the English channel.

The chief merit of this piece is confined to one scene, but unluckily that scene has no connection with it. It is the scene with which the piece commences, and which shews us a very natural portrait, in the character of *Chapeau*, of a knave who imitates the follies of his betters; and in that of *Robin*, of a humbler coxcomb, who is content with being the ape of an ape. Such characters are very frequent in this metropolis.

These two pieces, *Cross Purposes* and the *Duel*, appeared within the days of each other; in which short space of time the author gave us two great proofs that he is destitute of genius. We do not want a third proof

DEBATES OF A POLITICAL CLUB.

Continued from Page 520.

MAY 5, a report was made to the house by a committee, that it would reduce the price of leather, and be advantageous to trade in general, to allow the importation of oak bark duty-free, when the price of bark exceeds a certain sum.

After some general observations on the nature of this particular commodity, respecting its utility and importance in trade, it was observed by Mr. Burke, that a law of this nature would be beneficial to the state, upon the same principles that we admit the importation of corn, when it exceeds a certain price.

Sir Roger Newdigate declared, that he had had bark by him for the space of seven years, which he would have willingly disposed of if he could have got a reasonable price. He therefore begged of Mr. Burke to procure him a purchaser among the tanners, as he believed Mr. Burke had good interest among that body of people, and others of their stamp, before he would insist upon enacting this law.

Lord North said, that though he was originally for the proposed bill, yet he now saw it attended with such difficulties in the execution as he believed insuperable; that bark was not, like corn, a general commodity; that it would therefore be difficult to fix the medium price at which importation or exportation might be allowed; that he was afraid they never would be able to come to any precise determination; that particular advantages ought to be granted to the growers of oak, as it was so slow in coming to maturity; that, without such a regulation, men would never be tempted, by such a distant prospect, to plant oaks; that he could not agree to the bill, till he saw such advantages secured to the growers of oak as would render it worth their while to plant; that, though the manufacture of leather was of great consequence, yet our navy must not be sacrificed to it, or any other consideration.

The report was rejected.

Dec. 1772.

Sir William Meredith having some time before presented to the house a petition from the merchants of Liverpool, complaining of malversation in the management of the African trade, Mr. Jones, a merchant in that trade, was called to the bar. On his examination it appeared, that at present the number of freemen entitled to vote for governors of the company amounted to 1425; that about the time of election it was customary to bring in lists of such as were proper for being chosen; that, upon the payment of 40s. the corporation fee, they were elected; that there were strong reasons for believing, that these voters were made free at the expence, not of themselves, but of certain monied men, who meant to monopolize the management of the company; that very few of these freemen were any way concerned in the African trade; that their place of abode could not, upon the strictest enquiry, be found out; that the share of the Liverpool merchants in the African trade was to that of London nearly as 29 to 8, or 4 to 1; that there were well-grounded complaints against the committee of the company.

Mr. Cleland, another African merchant, who had stood candidate for the office of committee-man, deposed, that many of the freemen could not, upon the most diligent search by him and his friends upon 'Change, and at the Post-Office, be traced out; that several of the letters directed to them came back, because no such persons were known.

Mr. Sylva, clerk to the company, deposed, that a Mr. Wilson brought a list of 150 or more persons to be elected freemen at one time; that as he did not at any time take the corporation fee, he could not tell who paid the money; that very few of the voters were concerned in the African trade.

Mr. Smith, one of the most considerable in the trade, declared, that there was a combination formed by a few men for having the direction of

the trade, for private and bad purposes; that he saw a bond of association entered into by five men for bearing jointly the expence of elections, and for converting the trade to their own advantage; that James Johnson, — Wilson, and three other names, which he gave from a paper in his hand, were the persons; that he did not know whether the paper existed now or not; that of late there were heavy complaints against the committee; that he himself had, with others interested in the trade, signed a complaint against them to the board of trade.

The speaker would not, at the instance of Sir William Meredith, Mr. Phipps, and Mr. Dempster, suffer Mr. Smith to speak to the contents of the paper, because it was the rule of every well-regulated court to admit only the best evidence that could be had. If the paper cannot be got, it will then be time enough to call upon Mr. Smith, who will thus be possessed of the best evidence in our power to procure.

Peregrine Cust, who seemed to take upon him the defence of the gentlemen arraigned, observed, that none of the witnesses could say, that they knew of any complaints preferred against the committee till very lately; that no alteration was made in the constitution of the company, but that it stood upon its ancient foundation; that the trade was in a flourishing condition, as he would undertake to prove, after they had allowed him to examine the company's secretary; that this could not possibly be the case, if their affairs were mismanaged, or if there was an iniquitous combination; that the act of parliament, which established the qualification of voters, meant to put the company upon as wide a basis as possible, that the West Indies, who were more concerned in the African trade than London and Bristol, and the rest of our sea-ports put together, might sustain no injury by any combination among interested men.

Sir William Meredith answered, that the company might be in a flourishing condition, but yet not in such a flourishing condition as they would naturally have risen to, if these combinations did not at all exist; that

men would never enter into combinations, if their views were upright and honest, much less would they introduce spurious voters, and be guilty of a fraud, or elude the intention of an act of parliament; that the act of parliament could never mean to throw the management of the African company into the hands of men who were no way concerned in it, and understood nothing of its nature; that he did not intend by an inquiry to throw any reflection upon any man or set of men; that he meant only to do justice to his constituents, who, as appeared from the evidence, were so essentially interested in the matter; that it was clear, that so many spurious votes as were admitted at elections, would necessarily take the management of affairs out of the hands of those who were best qualified for conducting, and most affected by the African trade; that no man could be a better judge of that matter than Mr. Cust, who came into parliament by means of thirty-four voters of New Shoreham; that the eight hundred now appointed by the legislature, for the manifest corruption of that borough, to vote at elections, would render his thirty-four votes of very little use; that, in the same manner, the one thousand or eleven hundred spurious votes, admitted at the election of a committee for the African company, would render the two hundred and fifty legal votes of little service; that, in order to put things upon their ancient and legal footing, he wished to have this matter maturely considered, and that he did not doubt of proving, if so manifest a thing required a proof, to the House the necessity of the proposed reform.

Mr. Burke said, that at present the freemen, whether spurious voters or not, ought to be considered as legal voters, till they were proved the reverse; that they bought their qualification, or at least are supposed to have bought it; that they were not to be deprived of their franchise but by due course of law; that the case of New Shoreham was not similar, because the electors of that borough had been proved guilty of notorious corruption, and because no such charge was made good against the freemen of the African company.

Sir William Meredith replied, that he had of late the misfortune of differing frequently in opinion from Mr. Burke; that, in the present instance, his meaning was not understood; that he did not introduce the case of the people of Shoreham but for the sake of illustration.

On a division, a bill was ordered in for regulating the future elections of committee-men for the African company.

On the 15th of May, the bill was presented to the House by Sir William Meredith. Among the first who spoke on the subject of it was Mr. Burke, who argued nearly as follows:

When any new regulation is to be made, or any new act to be passed, I would have it weighed and examined upon the principles of the constitution, and, if found inconsistent with them, rejected. Let us pursue this plan in the present instance. This bill would have us confine the right of election to those who actually do trade, or intend to trade to Africa. What is the consequence of this alteration? You cut off at once above twelve hundred voters, who under the faith of an act of parliament purchased the right of voting. And for what reason are they thus to be stripped of their franchise? What crime, what misdemeanour is alledged against them? Why truly it is insinuated that they did not pay their corporation fees out of their own purses, but were rendered free at the expence of other men. But, Sir, is a whole body of men to be disfranchised upon mere surmise, or suspicion, however strong? I hope we understand the constitution and the principles of equity better. Had no better proof of corruption than is now exhibited been given in the case of the electors of New Shoreham, I certainly would never have consented to their disfranchisement; for such it was in fact, though not in name.

Besides, we ought to consider that we would take away not only the right of those who are no traders in any branch of commerce, but also that many respectable West-India merchants, some of them members of this House, who are as deeply interested in the success of the African trade as the very men that fit out ships for the purchase of Negroes. Is no respect

to be payed to such persons? Are we to cut off the good with the evil? Ought we not rather to imitate the pattern set us in the sacred writ, and if we find ten just persons among them, to spare the whole? Before we take such a step, we ought to enquire into the origin and institution and nature of the African Company, and to see whether this plan be conformable to the spirit and tendency of the act by which it was established. The trade in question, though put under the direction of a company, was intended to be free and open. Hence the qualification of an elector was fixed at a low standard, at forty shillings of corporation fee, that it might resemble our county elections, and be open to as many as possible, upon supposition that the more numerous the electors, the more difficult bribery and corruption. The East India Company being upon a different footing, being intended for a monopoly, different maxims prevailed in its erection. The qualification of an elector was raised to the sum of five hundred pounds of capital stock. Let us not then counteract the wisdom of our ancestors, who considered and re-considered this subject, nor place upon the footing of a monopoly what was intended for a free trade. It is contended that the trade in its present state is but a monopoly; and this bill is intended for remedying that grievance. But, while we attempt to remedy one grievance, let us take care not to introduce a worse in its place. Of the present freemen there are but thirty that are real traders. If the sole management of the trade be left to them, the committee will be chosen by rotation out of their body, and thus we shall have, in Mrs. Macaulay's words, *a perfect round of rotation*, and a monopoly with a witness. No wonder then that the meeting of the West India merchants petition that the matter should be put off for three months, till they have time to consider and report to the House how their interest will be affected. If neither they nor any other merchants, whose business it is to prevent the extravagant price of Negroes, are admitted not so much as to vote, much less to a seat in the committee, the importers of slaves may set their own price, and raise what

sums they please upon your planters. Would not this necessarily depopulate your colonies, and enhance the price of sugars? Nothing is more evident.

But perhaps the trade has been mismanaged; it has dwindled to nothing in the hands of the committee-men chosen by the present freemen. Nothing can be farther from the truth. Before the trade was put upon its present footing, only nineteen thousand negroes were imported. To what number do they now amount? To fifty thousand. Does this circumstance indicate mismanagement? Quite the reverse. I would therefore be very sure of the principles upon which I proceeded, before I would make any alteration in a system under which the trade has grown to this magnitude; nor would I favour one party in prejudice of the other, when the election is so nigh.

William Burke, Bamber Gascoyne, and several other members, held the same language.

Sir William Meredith, the father of the bill, said,

Sir, I am accused in this bill of attempting to invade mens legal franchise, a right which they purchased under the faith of an act of parliament. Were that the case, I should no doubt be culpable, provided some great advantage were not to arise to the nation from the invasion. But the fact is otherwise; I am invading no franchise, no right. I only contend for enacting a new law to explain the meaning of an old one, under which most of the present freemen have fraudulently crept into the rights of other men. Consult the act, and you will find that the parliament, that passed it, had none in contemplation but traders, but men who actually purchased or imported slaves. [*Here he read the passages to which he referred; and they seemed to justify his reasoning.*] This being the state of the case, it is evident that I attempt no alteration, no innovation; I mean only to oust men from premises to which they have no legal nor equitable title. Not that I object to real merchants, much less to West India merchants; were they and they only included with the real importers of slaves into the colonies, I cannot see any reasonable objection against them. But that men who are

no traders at all, who understand nothing of this trade, nor of any other, should by act of parliament be allowed to appoint the guardians of a branch of business upon which the prosperity of our sugar colonies depends, is an absolute solecism in politicks. It was never the meaning of the original act; nor is it consistent with the nature of trade.

It is indeed alledged, that the trade has grown under their hands. But, Sir, there is a fallacy in the argument. Though the trade upon the whole has encreased, it is not owing to the good management of the committee. Where their influence extends, and it extends where the best, the most hardy and useful slaves are found, the trade has greatly declined. Instead of employing the three hundred thousand pounds allowed by government in presents to the princes of the country, in order to induce them to sell slaves, there is reason to apprehend that much of that sum is laid out in purchasing slaves as private property. Certain it is, that the present committee-men make a scandalous use of their power. By means of their intelligence and correspondence, and presents made with the public money, their ships are freighted with slaves in a fortnight or three weeks, while those of others, not less meritorious, are obliged to wait thirteen months upon the coast; a delay by which the expence of the voyage is greatly encreased, and the slaves are frequently lost by sickness and other disasters. My constituents, who had five eighths of this trade in their hands, pressed by this grievance, have many of them sold off their ships, and dropt the business. Must not this event necessarily distress the colonies? The price of slaves must certainly rise, except you apply the proposed remedy.

Mr. Oliver and several other gentlemen, perfectly acquainted with the nature of this trade, and at the same time freemen, agreed with Sir W. Meredith in opinion, and declared that the behaviour of the committee was so scandalous, as to demand this remedy; and they were willing, for the sake of the public good, to give up their franchise. — Upon a division 25 were for postponing the matter for three months, and 23 against it.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

An ESSAY on *Passionate and Descriptive* SONGS.

THE poet's rapturous descriptions of beauty, with the expression of his warm sensations and emotions, are the subjects of this class of song-writing.

Its models exist in the classical remains of Lyric poetry, and all the praise the moderns can here expect must arise from imitating with success these examples of perfection.

The sublime and beautiful of nature were first combined with the elegance and refinement of art by the Grecians; and their superiority in their poetry, and other fine arts, entitled them to distinguish the rest of the world from themselves, as barbarians. Their Roman conquerors, first by their arms, and then by their borrowed arts, obtained a share in the honourable exclusion. Among these people even simple Nature was graceful, and ornament was elegant and magnificent. Glaring splendor reigned in the East, and terrible sublimity in the North; but grace and dignity belonged to Greece and Rome alone. Fancy, in her wildest flights, could in them restrain herself within the limits of harmony and proportion. Even superstition here wore a graceful aspect. While the deities of other nations were present to their minds in the horrid forms of cruel rage and gigantic deformity, they gave divinity to the sublime and beautiful conceptions of their poets and painters. These they embodied with suitable symbols and attributes; and the enthusiastic votary worshipped the god of his own corrupted imagination. There is no circumstance in which the genius of these people shews itself more strongly than in the character of their fancy-formed divinities. Besides those particularly distinguished by the title of the GRACES, there were many whose attributes expressed the different shades and variations of whatever is elegant or graceful. Their VENUS was the abstract idea of all these united. She was grace and beauty itself, and parent of every thing gladsome and lovely. With the charming image of this ideal excellence in their minds, the poets of

Greece and Rome selected every pleasing object from the whole compass of nature, and carefully separated them from every thing disgusting and incongruous. From the croud of surrounding images, they knew how to choose such as were not only intrinsically beautiful, but suitable to their subject; and they knew when to drop all ornament, and recur to simple nature. They distinguished with the nicest judgment between the purposes of elevating the fancy, and interesting the heart, and could give full force to each, without confounding and mixing their effects.

In the species of Lyric poetry, which we now consider, both these designs have their place. The poetical description of a fair form requires the comparison of every kindred object of delight, and the richest colouring that art can bestow. The expression of emotions, on the other hand, must be conducted upon a simple plan; the feelings of the soul must declare themselves in artless touches of nature, and the real symptoms of passion; and the poet's hand must only appear in the delicacy of his strokes, and the softness and harmony of his versification.

Sappho, the genuine favourite of Venus, has given us a perfect model of the *passionate* song: she poured forth her whole soul in those amorous odes, of which time has indeed left us very scanty remains, but such as will ever be the first examples of elegance and sensibility. The joyous Anacreon succeeded, but with a different turn of sentiment. His lyre was tuned rather to gaiety than tenderness, and his Venus was rather the easy companion of a Bacchanalian, than the object of delicate and refined emotions. In Horace, the passionate warmth of Sappho, the easy gaiety of Anacreon, and a superior strain of fancy and poetical enthusiasm proper to himself, are united; but, on the whole, he is less frequently tender, than gay or sublime. Among the Romans, the elegiac poets chiefly excelled in the natural and simple pathetic, and Tibullus is the purest example of this kind of writing. His flowing, elegant, and unadorned style, sweetly corresponds with the tender sentiments of complaining love, and some of the most

most affecting touches of nature that ever were expressed have dropt from his pen. Ovid, though thoroughly acquainted with the passion of love, and abounding with warm and natural descriptions of it, was in general too much under the dominion of a lively fancy, and too fond of brilliant expression, to be long a pathetic writer.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

EMILY. *A Rural Character.*

EMILY is the only daughter of a private country gentleman, whose liberal turn of mind is not adequately supported by his rent-roll; but who is still able to maintain, without shifts or meanness, the golden mediocrity of the Augustan age. Emily lost her mother when very young; but this loss hath been amply compensated by the unbounded, yet enlightened fondness of a tender father. Much expence hath been spared in her education; but true taste and sentimental elegance have been in a manner exhausted.

This young lady is now in her twenty-second year; but the beautiful simplicity of childhood hath not yet been sacrificed to false and vicious refinement.—Frank as the most unmeaning hoyden, she has all the genuine reserve of virtue. And with the most unblushing innocence, she unites the easiest manner, and a courtly air.—She is not a proficient in music, for her ear, tho' tolerably correct, is not delicately so. But her voice is unexceptionable; and her method of singing is captivating, beyond the power of resistance. In drawing, and in the ornamental parts of needle-work, Emily displays a taste worthy of herself. Her performances are easily distinguished by that correct simplicity which runs through them.—

It is too little to say of this village maid, that her mind is cultivated, and her understanding informed; and yet she has read but few books. But they were well chosen from the politest moralists. Strange as it may seem, she has never looked into a novel. So true is the observation of a celebrated writer, that *no modest girl ever reads a*

romance †. If Emily had attempted to read such compositions, how should she have understood them? I once carried her to a fashionable comedy, but she comprehended nothing of the performance. How should the pictures of vice be intelligible to simple virtue!

Emily does not attempt to shine in conversation; and I suppose this is one reason why she pleases so universally. She has no conception of *bon mot*; and the *double entendre* is entirely thrown away upon her. I have seen her in company, when the other ladies have been simpering behind their fans, or contemplating the lace of their ruffles, look upon them with the most childish surprise, and stare round the room for the cause of their confusion. The expression which covered their faces with ambiguous simpers, or with expressive blushes, was to her either obvious and harmless, or dark and unintelligible.—Now to me these symptoms of innocence are not unpleasing.

Is this same Miss Emily handsome? — I expected such a question.—

There is nothing in her face that strikes you, but her eye, which is full, luminous, and of classic blue. Her other features are rather inelegant, and they clash a little in their combination. But in the turn of her neck, there is language. And in the proportions of her person, I find a most delicate symmetry. Now according to my idea this is beauty.

In the article of dress, this charming girl does not implicitly follow the absurdities of fashion. Nature has happily exempted her from the necessity of following them; and her own good sense will not permit her to sacrifice propriety to the mode. It is not my intention to describe the particulars of her dress. Separately taken they may seem perhaps to border upon the *outré*; and what description can convey an adequate idea of the *total ensemble*?

It is already a pretty clear case that Emily is not a fine lady; and the following circumstance puts the matter out of all doubt. For she observes with a punctilious accuracy, with more than eastern scrupulosity, the exact rules of feminine neatness, and

personal

* *They blush, because they understand.* Swift.

† *Preface to Eloisa.*

personal decorum. And this neatness is not confined to externals. It is total, and intrinsic. *Swift* himself must have stood abashed in her presence; and could *Shabbear* have known her, I doubt whether *Batista Angeloni* would have ever written his six and twentieth letter.

Emily has been honoured with the addresses of several neighbouring gentlemen; but she has hitherto been anxious to keep both her heart and her hand. They shall go together, (she says) when she is disposed to give them; but that time is not yet arrived. And truly I cannot discommend her hesitation.——Formed to give happiness to a man of sentiment and virtue, why should she throw herself away upon ignorant opulence, or surrender to the pursuits of vulgar desire an heart fraught with tenderness and love?—She has an heart to bestow, and nothing less than an heart should be accepted in return.

Beside, Emily looks on marriage as the sublimest of all connections. From her idea of that holy contract, the transient gratification of vagrant fancy and the sordid considerations of interest are equally and entirely excluded. To render the happiness of an human being (her superior in some respects) dependent on herself, is to Emily a charge of much delicacy and importance. And her idea of this charge will not be impaired by the united efforts of ignorant banter, ill-versed insinuation, and vulgar jest.

By this time, Sir, I hear you exclaim that in this village maid there is something mightily rare, and uncommon. She is altogether unlike the generality of her sex. It is very true. And had she not been unlike in many respects, I should neither have left her with such regret, nor have taken so much pleasure in this minute recollection of her charms.

Since I left ****, Emily has honoured me with her correspondence. Her letters are, like the genuine compositions of her sex, tender, easy, sentimental. When I take up my pen to answer them, I feel my inferiority, and almost wish myself a woman.—I have told you, Sir, that Emily has read; and yet her orthography is frequently particular. Whence happens this? It

is not easy to determine. But here your fair readers will vindicate their claims, and will assure you that in this she is by no means singular, and ought to be believed.

Somersetshire.

L'INCONNÜ.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

To Dr. BEATTIE.

S I R,

IN your Essay on Truth, you undertake to refute Dr. Berkeley's Principles of Human Knowledge; not, indeed, by rational arguments, for you, with some other profound professors of your nation, do candidly and prudently confess, that immaterialism is proof against the attacks of reason. You, Sir, have been so fortunate as to discover a guide to truth, safer and surer than reason; which guide you are pleased to call by the name of *common sense*. "By this term is (you say) signified that power of the mind which perceives truth, or commands belief, not by progressive argumentation, but by an *instantaneous, insinélive, irresistible* impulse, derived neither from education nor habit, but from nature; acting independently on our will, whenever an object is presented, according to an established law, and therefore properly called *sense*; and acting in a similar manner upon all, or at least upon a great majority of mankind, and therefore properly called *common sense*."

By this common sense we are, it seems, assured that the sensible world has an absolute, independent, external existence.

Dr. Berkeley had, you say, a great understanding: pray, Sir, tell me if he had *common sense*?—It is a maxim in logic, and I think *common sense* will not contradict it, that *omne majus continet in se minus*. If this maxim be true, it seems to follow that, by denying that his Lordship had common sense, we should be as wise, as if we should suppose that, because a man is very rich, he has not money in his pocket for common occasions; or as if we should affirm, that because an eye sees distant objects with much clearness, it must be blind to those with which it is more nearly surrounded.

Now,

Now, if Dr. Berkeley had *common sense*, why was not he, as well as Dr. Beattie, forced by an *instinctive, instantaneous, irresistible* impulse to believe the sensible world has an external existence?

I call not *common sense* inferior to, or less than reason, because I think it a less sure guide than reason, but because it does not guide so far. Reason has, I suppose, discovered remote regions inhabited by truth, into which no sense or faculty *common to all, or to a great majority of mankind*, doth *instantaneously* penetrate.

Let us more attentively view this power of the mind, by you called *common sense*: it commands, you say, belief, by an *instantaneous, instinctive, irresistible impulse*; and by this *impulse* you are forced to believe the sensible world to be external. This is a bold assertion, but, in my opinion, not more bold than false. This opinion is founded on the following fact.

"A youth who had been blind from his infancy, being made to see, was, when he first saw, so far from making any judgment about distances, that he thought all objects whatever touched his eyes, (as he expressed it) as what he felt did his skin."*

From this experiment it seems to me clear that, without time and repeated experience of divers senses and faculties, we cannot acquire even an idea or notion of distances; so far are we from being *instinctively, instantaneously, and irresistibly impelled* to believe the *external* existence of the visible or sensible world.

You are, I trust, by this time ready to agree with me, that *common sense* is, no less than reason, on the side of immaterialism.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

And constant reader,

Dec. 19, 1772.

PHILONOUS.

To the EDITOR of the LONDON
MAGAZINE.

S I R,

I N your October Magazine I observe one of your correspondents, who calls himself *A Speculist*, remark-

ing upon the mutability of the times. This gentleman seems to think it very strange, that the number of Scots residing in London, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, should have been so much less than in the present; but I can by no means join in his surprise, because I recollect that in her reign England and Scotland were contending nations, whereas now they are united in one; I may say perfectly united, to the entire satisfaction of both parties, if you will give me leave to except those fiery partizans, who are always uneasy under the present mode of government, let that mode be what it will. This circumstance being duly considered, I can see no more to be surprised at in this, than if I was to observe two neighbouring families visit every day after a reconciliation, who had cautiously avoided each other whilst they were at enmity.

This is the only change in the times that your correspondent has thought worthy of his regard, though, in my opinion, he might have mentioned others of far greater moment. He tells us, "Elizabeth issued orders to the lord mayor, aldermen, &c. to make the strictest scrutiny through their several wards, and draw out an exact list of the names of all the foreigners residing therein, classed under their respective nations or provinces; by which the exact number of all the foreigners residing in London might be ascertained." He adds "the citizens carefully obeyed."

This anecdote has excited my curiosity so far as to put me upon enquiring whether, if his present majesty were to issue similar orders, those orders would meet with a similar fate. If I may judge of the future from retrospect to some late transaction (and I presume it will be admitted the most, if not the only, proper way of judging) I must rather doubt it; I must think those orders would be treated with the utmost contempt. I must indeed conclude, that the real compliance of the citizens of London at that period, plainly points out to us, that a due subordination to regular government was the boast of that glorious æra, at least as much as

* See Philosophical Transactions, No. 402, or Cheselden's Anatomy.

fierce contention for licentious liberty can possibly be the period of this.

However high in our esteem those gentlemen may stand, who formed the cabinet of that illustrious prince, yet it is certain, that in their day they met with a strong opposition. Such is the variety of mens opinions, that we can scarcely find two, who would pursue the same plan of operations throughout, were they to be employed in conducting the same affair: and such is the self-sufficiency of the human mind, that each individual thinks himself capable of conducting any business in the best and most advantageous manner. He can observe mistakes in others, which he is confident he should not have fallen into, and he is not conscious of any other errors which might have been peculiar to him; till the event has determined against him, he is confident of the success that must have attended his own plan; and this confidence is most commonly observable in those who are most in the wrong. On this account, abstracted from the emoluments annexed to places, the ministry of that distant æra must have met a strong opposition, as well as their successors; yet strong as that opposition was, neither the then citizens of London, nor any of the leaders of the opposing party, ever carried it so far as to insult their sovereign upon the throne. The zeal of that age was firmly attached to religion, and by that they were kept within the bounds of due decorum; by that they were constrained to think it a duty incumbent on them to render to Cæsar the things that be Cæsar's; even they who despised religion, and neglected her precepts, yet found it their interest to preserve a fair outside.

It is true, the zeal for religion did, in a later reign, hurry our ancestors into such measures as have been frequently blamed; but, in excuse for them, it hath been also argued, that they did not even attempt this till their religious liberty was not barely in danger, but suffered an open attack. In this case, therefore, we have a clear demonstration of the resolution of our ancestors, when they found it necessary to defend their invaded rights: and in the other we see how

Dec. 1772.

ready they were to comply with the demands of government, even in things not strictly conformable to the letter of the law, when it was convenient so to do.

But the flaming zeal of our modern partizans is stamped with another character. Their regard for religion appears very plainly in their steady caution to avoid the profanation of it, and therefore it is that they are scarcely ever heard to utter the name of it with their lips; nay, so great is their veneration for it, that they lay it aside in a secret place, to prevent its being injured by too frequent use: just so the curious lock up their choicest and most valuable rarities. By this measure our moderns are freed from those restraints, they are disengaged from those incumbrances, which our forefathers tamely submitted to; and they are spirited with a manly boldness, which enables them to say, "Our tongues are our own: who is lord over us?"

Perhaps some will argue, that this way of treating religion appears more like a total disregard of it than a veneration for it. But let such reclaim their censure till they have read and considered the following passage in the book of Judges: "In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which seemed right in his own eyes." After this let them say, whether these moderns do not make the sacred page their invariable rule of life.

From these hints it may be easily collected, that your correspondent, the Speculist, might have exemplified the mutability of the times in other instances, I wish I could say not, more affecting than that which appears to him so very astonishing and incredible; and to these I might add others: but to give occasion to you, or any of your readers to say, "he is tedious," is foreign to the intention of

From the North, THEOPHILUS.
Nov. 1772.

Critical Remarks on the Song of Solomon, by Dr. Durell.

THIS poem seems to be of a mixt nature between the dramatic and the pastoral. The unities of time, place, and characters, are not so strictly

strictly observed as in later compositions of either kind. There are traces of seven different days; during which interval the marriage festival lasted among the Jews. See Gen. xxix. 27. Judg. xiv. 12. The scene sometimes represents the country, sometimes the city, &c. And Solomon appears at times in his own real character, presently after in that of a shepherd, then re-assumes his own again. The *dramatis personæ*, besides the bridegroom and bride, are the watchmen, or such persons as are occasionally met with on the road; and a chorus of maidens, attendants on the bride. The language is sometimes lofty and spirited, sometimes only suitable to shepherds. Many of the words, occurring in no other place, cannot have their precise sense easily ascertained, neither can we always see the justness of all the comparisons; which probably proceeds from our ignorance, not only of the terms, but of the manners, and other circumstances.

This poem is generally considered as an epithalamium composed by Solomon on his marriage with the daughter of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. And this appears to me to be the only point of view in which it ought to be considered. In respect to the mystical sense which it is supposed to contain, I must frankly acknowledge that I cannot perceive the least foundation for it. This notion I suppose was originally derived from the Targum, and adopted soon after by some of the fathers, who, with more piety than judgment, thought that, as St. Paul compares the union of Christ with his church to a marriage, this poem ought also to be interpreted with reference to the same subject. But how is it consistent with this idea, that neither the name of God, nor of Christ, ever occurs in it? that there is not one religious or moral sentiment to be found? that it is not once either quoted, or most distantly alluded to, in any part of the sacred writings? on which account, perhaps, it is not directed to be read in our churches. We find also, that those who attempt to trace the allegory in every part, are soon lost in an inextricable labyrinth.

But I seem already to hear it objected, that it is great presumption to

venture to dissent from an opinion which has been established for near twenty centuries, and has been abetted by great, good, and learned men, during all that long interval; and that this novel opinion may tend to weaken the foundation of the church of Christ. To this I reply, that mere length of time is but a sandy foundation for the basis of truth to rest upon; that all it can in reason pretend to is, to teach us caution before we quit established opinions; but surely it ought not to preclude us from making due inquiries, and using our rational powers, or, upon due conviction of former errors, from publicly detecting them. In regard to any supposed inconvenience accruing to the Christian religion, I really see none. On the contrary, as it is so well established *on the sure word of prophecy*, which *thrones, principalities and powers*, cannot prevail against, it appears to me more for the interest of that religion to quit an untenable post, than to expose it to the assault of enemies who must inevitably soon become masters of it.

Some Account of the TRADE and FINANCES of FRANCE.

Translated from the French.

THE deception concerning arts and commerce is extremely great. They are springs of circulation; and it is thought that they contribute to the mass. Their produce is certainly considerable, and to such a degree, that general misery would be the consequence of their decay. But it is because we derive from them some conveniences and superfluities, which we have made to ourselves necessities, and the returns from which are the only fund of subsistence to numbers of people. It will not be pretended, that the sales and barter in the inland part of the kingdom add to the quantity of our gold and silver. All that results from them is, that it is put in motion, that it is distributed, dispersed. Its increase, if it receives it by trade, can only proceed from foreign trade. Let us enter into a short examination of the particulars. We draw money from our trade with Spain. This money is given us in exchange for various merchandize with which we help to

form the cargo of the galleons ; and it generally amounts to an annual sum of ten millions of livres. The English and Dutch have long supplanted us in supplying the inner part of Spain. Let us, however, reckon that we still have a profit there of between four and five millions. We compensate, by the wages of our peasants of Guienne who go to harvest-work in Navarre and Galicia, the discount on the piastres, and the purchase of many materials with which our soil does not furnish our manufactures. Thus we shall make our trade with Spain amount to an annual profit of fifteen millions of livres in specie, or in bars.

It is long since we have had any thing to do with Portugal. The duties on the exportation of our dried fruits and sweet meats give the Italians the advantage of this trade with the people of the North ; and all that we can do with them in other branches does not retrieve the money which the spiritual commodities of the court of Rome annually draw from the kingdom.

We are too happy if our trade with the English be on a par in time of peace. Their tobacco, their pewter, their wrought steel, their horses, and their coals answer the exchange of our wines and brandies. We consume more of their iron-ware than they do of ours. We are even so blind, as to esteem their woollen cloths, their stuffs and their silk hose, their painted calicoes, their flannels and their caps. More than once we have been obliged to make a resource of their corn and their meal. We are fond of taking from them even at Paris, oysters which we have as good, and in plenty, on our coasts. It is very certain, that we might live entirely without them, and lay them under the necessity of bringing us their money for our provisions which are necessary to them. But this we are far from doing. We have voluntarily deprived ourselves of our tobacco ; we neglect the mines of various metals and of coals, which our mountains conceal. The art of making the finest steel, of which M. Reaumur published the discovery, does not perhaps return to the kingdom the pension of 12,000 francs, with which the inventor was justly rewarded by the king. Our breed of

horses is entirely lost ; and with the most excellent pastures for horses for every kind of use, which foreigners envy us, we are at the mercy of foreigners for remounting our armies, for the chace, for the menage, and even for the sets of the luxurious.

The Dutch have enough of fish, salt and dried, of cheese and spices, to have always the balance with us in their favour. They have learned to do almost entirely without our salt : they make a very small consumption of our manufactures ; they carry on a great part of our own coasting trade : and our want of them for remittances of money to Germany and the North almost always keeps the exchange above par against us in their favour.

Since the duty imprudently laid on our brouage and marsh salt, the Swedes have taken in their freight at Yvica ; and their copper and their wood constantly put us in arrears with them. Denmark keeps us continually so by her interior œconomy. The allurements of the slender profit which the country of Bourdeaux affords us, deprives us of the refinement of sugars, which that precious country (which is not to be found elsewhere) seems to have granted from us in a monopoly to all Europe. We sell it to the Hamburgers, whose city has more works of that kind than the whole kingdom of France. We should be no better with Russia than with Sweden and Denmark, if the magnificence of the imperial court was not advantageous to us.

Our trade with Germany depends on peace and war ; and in both cases, the subsidies leave us nothing to receive from its mines. The rage of fashion even threatens us with seeing its wines obtain with us the preference to our own. The only real gain which we can make with the nations of Europe is reduced to that which foreign luxury and the taste of fashion occasion to the manufactures of Lyons and to the artizans of Paris, and to the money spent in the capital by travellers who are drawn thither by the love of arts and pleasures, by the mildness and levity of our manners. Do you think that this is an equivalent for the expence of the king's ministers in foreign courts, for that of the subsidies which the interest

of the state obliges his majesty to distribute there, and for that of the consumption of our armies beyond the frontier?

There remains then, to augment the mass of our gold and silver, the produce of our commerce in the three other parts of the world, added to that of Spain. It is a fact, that we pay for the corn of Barbary in ready money, and that our settlements on all that coast are still in their infancy. A thousand or twelve hundred negroes, and some pounds of gold dust, composed, with gums and ivory, the returns of our traffic on the coast of Guinea, in the time of our prosperity. We bring back neither gold nor silver from the Levant. India gives us only some commodities prejudicial to our manufactures, in exchange for the silver which we carry thither. A little salt-petre and indigo, and some diamonds, are not so necessary to us, as to give us reason to congratulate ourselves on the benevolence of the nabobs who allow us to purchase them. We know too well the subtlety of the Chinese, and the contempt which they have for our manufactures, not to own that we gain nothing from them. From Japan we are excluded; we are not yet acquainted with Corea. We are scarce suffered to stay at the Philippines and Java, when the winds detain us in those latitudes. We have no correspondence in the South-Sea. We scarce shew ourselves on the coasts and in the ports of Brasil. Guiana is still as new a country to us as that of the Patagonians. The contraband trade on the coast of the Caraccas, and in the gulph of Mexico, is no small object. I value it at a million of francs. This is setting it at its full worth.

Sugar, indigo, coffee, and cocoa being become part of the necessities of life, we should set a high price on what we bring from our islands, if we were obliged to purchase them. But those colonies are a part of the kingdom; and their productions are objects of consumption which we exchange for manufactures, and for the produce, either natural or factitious, of our provinces. The whole should be ranked in the glass of internal commerce. If we furnish Switzerland with sugars, the profit which we re-

ceive from it is scarce an equivalent to that which the Dutch steal from us by supplying with that American commodity the greatest part of Alsace and Lorrain.

I wish it was as easy for us, as for the English, to ascertain by the directors of our mints, the quantity of gold and silver turned into specie by our kings. But can we, like them, know what we have left? Before last war, guineas were as scarce on the continent as medals; but at present, the Austrian Netherlands give ten sols more for them than for our louis d'ors: while our gold and silver coin, old and new, is in Switzerland, the Low Countries, Germany, and the North, the most common money. The Jews and the mint-masters of several German princes have melted down a prodigious number. The maintenance of the king's armies beyond the Rhine has carried out of our country, for many years, a great part of the sums which have been sent to them. It is granting too much to allow, that the mass of circulation, which is reckoned at fifteen hundred millions, is thirteen hundred millions of livres, or about sixty millions of pounds sterling.

But is all this mass wholly in circulation? Do not avarice and distrust bury a considerable part of it? The universal clamour of the want of specie leaves no room to doubt it. The immoderate luxury of the financiers, and that which has prevailed in all the classes of the nation, put in perpetual motion the gold and silver that are in trade. The circulation, which is continual, from the subjects to the king and from the king to the subjects, has multiplied the tender of money raised in the king's name. The payments daily made to the king, the extortions imputed to the financiers, cannot consequently occasion a considerable void. We are therefore less rich than our bold calculators pretend, who assert, that the kingdom which has not for forty years opened any new communication, whose commerce has received no increase which, on the contrary, has sustained a rude shock in that particular by the manufactures of Denmark, Prussia, and Austria, and by the last unfortunate war, is at this day richer by three hundred millions than it was forty years ago.

years ago. There is a more certain method of valuing our real substance.

The kingdom is reckoned at seventy millions of acres of land, since the acquisition of Lorrain. Allowing that there is not an inch of it which is not valuable, it would be absurd to rate the land of the Cevennes, of Dauphiny, Berry, the country of Foix, Bearn, &c. half Champagne, and all Lorrain, on the same footing with the fields of Brie and Beauce, which the neighbourhood of the capital makes inestimable. I value therefore every acre at an annual rent of ten francs, all the expences of culture deducted. This amounts to seven hundred millions. I reckon at half that sum the annual ground-rent of the cities and towns, and at a fifth the

value which art gives to the productions of the bowels of the earth. Let us estimate at a hundred millions the produce of our islands. The whole makes about thirteen hundred millions [or sixty millions sterling] and that I call our real substance. Hence is formed the mass of circulation, which is nothing more than a shuttlecock from the husbandman to the landlord and tenants, from them to tradesmen and artisans, and from all these classes to the king, as well as from the king to all these classes. Our œconomy in our internal consumption has made us gain by foreigners. Gold and silver have increased in quantity among us, in proportion as we have drawn it from abroad in exchange for our commodities.

For the L O N D O N M A G A Z I N E.

C H R I S T M A S. An E S S A Y.

Good-morning t'ye, my masters! St. John send you all a merry Christmas! Trimly are ye clad in your holiday doublets, and your holiday faces. — Shall we to Moorfields, or to the country-green? Shall we revel at the games in the city, or frolic away the day at the gambols in the villages? BEN JOHNSON.

December 27, 1772.

I HAVE been amusing myself during the three last days with observing the various scenes which Christmas has introduced into this metropolis. The arrival of these holidays has always been a signal for society to shake off their little cares; and the affairs of every man, however important or trifling, now turn aside from their usual channel, and wear a holiday appearance. Such a season as the present, when Revelry is let loose, and Festivity reigns in all hearts and in all faces, diffuses universal cheerfulness, not only among the actors in the drama, but among the spectators also. The simple man may look on and laugh; the grave man may view them, and shake his head; and even the philosopher may wink at the crowd, and glean a moral from the follies of his fellow-creatures.

It is worth our attention to observe how this festival operates on the different ranks of people in their manner of celebrating it; for every rank has a particular fashion, which it

follows instinctively, and exclusively of all others; so that a *first-rate* character in the arrangement of society shall differ as much from a *third* or *fourth-rate* one, as if the one was a Turk and the other a Laplander. — Your high-bred men, your men of fashion and *vertu* — the *My Lords*, the *Sir Johns*, and the *Esquires* of six thousand a year, leap into their carriages, with their whole family of daughters, sisters, and cousins, and roll down to their country-seats, fifty or a hundred miles from town, where they yawn away the *vulgar* holidays without company or comfort, pushing off the tedious evenings with scandal or cards, till the time comes for *genteel company* to fly again to town, and for the parliament to meet; while their tables are covered with all the flippant food of debauched palates and refined appetites — the frippery of French ragouts, culinary *kickshaws*, and the poisonous spices of the Indies.

The wealthy citizen, who, having been since his youth dependent on the smiles of the public, has at length become

become independent, and sets the world at defiance, betakes him into his chariot or his chair, with the companion of his life on his right hand, and *Tommy* and *Jacky* sitting on two stools before them. Things thus settled, he drives to his *box* at Clapham, Fulham, Camberwell, Newington-Butts, or Kentishtown; where, tho' a dirty ditch stretches itself behind his house, rolling down dead dogs and cats in its muddy stream, yet the citizen lives very happy, having his house upon the high-road side, and a square of Chinese railing before it, inclosing two or three withering shrubs. Here, in imitation of greater folks, the drowsy Christmas passes away but heavily: here you may see a picture of inconsistency—the remains of city-life blended with a high imitation of court-life—the manners of the 'Change awkwardly united with those of St. James's.

Your citizen of humbler note, who has yet got neither chariot nor chair, yet is daily making money by an unwearied attention to business, exhibits a livelier picture in the circle of his domestic life. Yet uncorrupted, untainted by an unnatural affectation of politeness, nought is he ambitious of being but a plain citizen. His utmost wish at this season is to have his table covered with a lusty rump of roast-beef, and to have two puddings smook upon his board at dinner. This dose is repeated at night, and with guttling, drinking, and smooking, he finishes a day of gluttony and gratification.

Why should I name that still humbler class of mankind, who earn their beef and porter by the sweat of their brows? To see enough of these *civilized savages*, it is only necessary to walk the streets in holiday-time. These are they who forsake their families, and cheat them of their daily bread to riot at alehouses and retail gin-shops—to roll in the kennels, or reel along the streets.

Having thus seen what the good folks in town are doing, it will not be amiss to take a walk into the country, to observe the effects of Christmas on rustic minds. Here, indeed, the whole is a scene of universal joy. It comes but once in the year, and they make the most of it. Noise and Mirth walk

hand in hand, and Good-humour keeps pace with good-eating. The spade, the pitch-fork, and the wheelbarrow are thrown away; the one-eyed parish-fiddler is sent for; and the well-smoked gammon of bacon is taken down from the roof.

On the well-brighten'd oaken board are spread
The rural dainties, such as Nature boon
Gives to her children; dainties, long prepar'd

To celebrate this day, and with good cheer
To grace its triumph. Crystal gooseberries,
By housewife well prepar'd, are pil'd in heaps.
Pride of the autumn, found green codlins float

In dulcet streams: nor wants the last year's store;

The hardy nut, in solid mail secure,
Impregnable to winter frosts, repays
Its hoarder's care; whilst the blythe cheerful swains

Crack nuts and jokes alternately.
Cheese-cakes and pies, in various forms up-rais'd,

In well-built pyramids aspiring stand:
Black hams, and tongues, that speechless can persuade

To ply the brisk carouse, and cheer the soul
With jovial draughts. Nor does the jolly God
Deny his precious gifts: here jocund swains,
In uncouth mirth delighted, gaily quaff
Their native bev'rage; in the brimming glass
The liquid amber smiles. The modest maid
But coyly sips, and blushing drinks, abash'd:
Each lover, with observant eye, beholds
Her graceful shame, and at her glowing cheeks
Rekindles all his fires; but matrons sage,
Better experienc'd, and instructed well
In midnight mysteries and feast-rites old,
Grasp the warm bowl, and draw a long, deep draught.

Such is the face of things within; but 'tis abroad that revelry breaks loose. The sports, the games, the gambols of their ancestors are not forgotten—those sacred reliques of ancient manners, which have been piously transmitted down from generation to generation, unsullied and unchanged. Dancing, wrestling, racing, cricket, cudgel-playing, skittles, bowling, or hunting, are met with in every thicket, in every field. Every place resounds with the cries of jollity: the hill answers to the dale, and the dale replies to the shelving rock: babbling Echo runs laughing from field to field, and the whole firmament is filled with the broken and confused sound of guns, tabors, fifes, fiddles, horns, hounds, and men.

It is in imitation, I suppose, of the ancient tilt and tournament, where the youth used formerly to win their fair-ones by force of arms, and where they shewed the strength of their love by the strength of their limbs, that such games as require unusual strength and activity to excel in them are still religiously preserved in the country. At these games also the young rustics have good opportunity of displaying their parts to please their mistresses. I have often stood with great satisfaction in the ring at a village, to view the feats performed by these athletic clowns; and the observation of those expressions which Nature throws into the faces and actions of the croud present, according as each of them is interested in the business that is going on, is not the least amusing part of the entertainment.

Behold yon motley croud : the buxom nymphs
Usher'd by jolly swains. Distinctions cease,
Lost in the common joy, and the bold slave
Leans on his wealthy master unprov'd.
Round the fond mother's neck the smiling
babe

Emulating clings : hard by, decrepit age,
Propt on his staff, with busy thought re-
volves

His pleasures past, and casts his grave re-
marks [youth

Among the heedless throng. The vigorous
strips for the combat, hopeful to subdue

The fair one's long disdain ; blushing she
views

His brawny limbs and his undaunted eye,
That looks a proud defiance on his foe.

Resolv'd, and obstinately firm he stands ;
Dangers nor death he fears, while the rich
victory and love. [prize

To be sure, all these things are
very good. Here is enough of mirth,
of merriment, and of sporting : here
enough of every thing suitable to
the time and occasion—of every thing
except religion. The most sacred
festival in our calendar, instead of
being celebrated with that pious joy,
that Christian cheerfulness, which
are the great purposes of its insti-
tution, is converted into one conti-
nued scene of riot, profligacy, and
bauchery. That divine æra, which
brought the Son of God into
the world, beaming mercy and im-
mortality on the sons of men, serves
as a signal for Lewdness to throw
the mask, for the wanton to be-

come more wicked, for the profligate
to become more profane.

Our ancestors, who have taught us
many good things, would teach us
something worthy of imitation in this
point also, if we had virtue enough to
copy it. These brave men considered
this annual festival as the season for call-
ing forth their most serious thoughts :
if they shut the doors of their shops or
compting-houses at the approach of
Christmas, it was only to retire into
their closets, and to present their gra-
titude to heaven. Thus it served as
a spur to make them more generous,
more virtuous, and more religious ;
and this naturally inspiring mirth and
cheerfulness, (for true religion is al-
ways cheerful) their very worship be-
came blended with an innocent and
laudable festivity : which made it not
only a religious but (as they called it)
a merry Christmas. This was the
true and original meaning of the
phrase ; which we, wanting only an
excuse to be riotous, have perverted
from its real explanation. We make
Christmas excessively merry, only by
being excessively wicked ; and we ce-
lebrate the festivity of our Saviour, as
if we were ministering the mad orgies
of Bacchus. — But profligacy is the
characteristic of this wretched age.

Illustration of a Passage of Shakespeare.

THOUGH the play of Hamlet
abounds in soliloquy of the most
pathetic and interesting species, I
know none more remarkable than that
which closes the second act, whether
we consider it in respect to energy of
expression, rapidity and warmth of
passion, or a striking peculiarity of
sentiment.

The poet, in a foregoing scene,
had stood forth the champion of his
fellows the players, and with great
poignancy ridiculed the capricious
taste of the publick, which had sup-
ported those unfledged actors, the
singing children of the queen's chapel,
and the children of St. Paul's, against
the established comedians. He now,
in a masterly manner, takes up the
cause of the stage against the Puritans,
who had laboured, in several set dis-
courses, to represent the acting of
plays not only as unlawful, but anti-
christian.

christian. Our author, seized with a divine enthusiasm in favour of an art he loved and practised, breaks out into the following remarkable expressions.

—————"I've heard
That guilty creatures, sitting at a play,
Have, by the very cunning of the scene,
Been struck so to the soul, that presently
They have proclaim'd their malefactions!"

Shakespeare more than once insinuates that the theatre is a supplement to the laws; that crimes which can by no other human means be known, are brought to light by the acting of a play. Hamlet will not believe one come from the dead, though bearing the resemblance of his father; but rests the evidence of an atrocious crime upon the effects to be produced by a play which is to be acted before the supposed guilty person.

—————"I'll have these players
Act something like the murder of my father
Before mine uncle: I'll observe his looks:
I'll hunt him to the quick: if he but blench*,
I know my course."———

So warm is our poet in behalf of stage exhibition, that he makes the principal character of the play risk his salvation on the acting of one particular scene.

"This vision that I have seen may be a devil,
&c. &c.

—————"I'll have grounds
More relative than this; the play's the thing,
In which I'll catch the conscience of the
king."

Though Shakespeare was not unacquainted with the effects which a well-acted play had produced upon the most depraved and cruel minds, yet I am fully persuaded, that in the composing of this soliloquy, his mind had been strongly impressed with a fact which was then recent and notorious.

The company of players belonging to the earl of Suffex, towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth, as near as we can guess, acted at Lynne Regis in Norfolk an old play called the History of Friar Francis, in which a woman is introduced, who murders her husband to enjoy the company of her gallant with greater security: The ghost of the husband pursues and terrifies the adulteress. During the acting of this scene, a certain woman alarmed the audience

with a shriek and an outcry of Oh! my husband! my husband! I see the ghost of my husband threatening me! Upon examination she confessed that seven years before, in order to enjoy the company of a man she then named, she had poisoned her husband, whose fearful image she imagined appeared to her in the shape of that ghost. This woman was immediately apprehended, and upon her voluntary confession condemned.

Heywood, who records this story, appeals for the truth of it to the records of the town of Lynne, and to many living witnesses, spectators, &c.

A N E C D O T E S Of the Domestic Life of the KING OF PRUSSIA.

THE king bestows the morning on the affairs of his kingdom, and it seems as if this time was well employed. He then reads all the petitions which are presented to him, and sometimes answers them. I have seen several letters written by himself to Frenchmen, or his own subjects, who have demanded justice of him. He has deigned sometimes to appoint a day to search into their grievances. The king always dines early; he admits every day, at a table which joins with his own, twenty or five and twenty persons: these consist of princes, general officers, or some celebrated men, whose superior talents have elevated them to the first rank. During my residence at Potsdam, I saw the marquis d'Argens and M. d'Alembert eat several times with his majesty.

The king has read much, and to advantage. Quintus Curtius is one of the books he takes great delight in. His heart beats high at the recitation of Alexander's actions; he is never weary with studying his military operations, his marches, his sieges, his victories: every thing affects him in the life of that hero. More fascinating than the prince whom he has taken for his model, who was possessed of courage and rashness, he does not endeavour to spread terror around him, or trouble the people who repose in the vale of peace; he contents himself with observing his kingdom flourish.

* If he turns white or pale.

flourish, and preserving them from the inroads of enemies.

In the evening the king amuses himself with musick; he plays very well upon the flute, and touches the *adagios* with prodigious grace. After the concert he sups with five or six of his favourites. It is at this repast that he delivers himself with the easy familiarity of a gay mind, and gives himself up to wit and pleasure. If in the height of friendship he lays aside the king, he gains the love of those around him. Imperious dignity is an antidote to true pleasure; the smile in such is never seen on the lips.

About a quarter of a league from Potsdam is a very pretty royal house called *Sans Souci*. It is situated upon a small hill; the gardens are elegantly laid out, and preserved in good order. The king sometimes gives little suppers there, and forgets his fatigues in the pleasures of Bellona and the Muses. He never plays, nor does he ever attend the chase, although there is plenty of all kinds of game in the woods capable of affording diversion. He never travels at great expence,

nor far, as he does not wish to see the distresses of his subjects, by going amongst them. The strangers who resort to the court of Potsdam are surprised at the little luxury to be observed there. The king is always dressed in uniform, and the different noblemen dress themselves in the manner becoming men who style themselves the defenders of their country, and supporters of the throne.

I shall conclude this short sketch by observing, that the king of Prussia is a most worthy governor. He is possessed of both military and legislative knowledge. He is gracious, equitable, and an œconomist, although generous. I need not speak of the agreeable talents which he cultivates; all the world know his works, and have read with pleasure his memoirs of Brandenburg. After having enriched his kingdom, and rendered his troops formidable to the powers which surround him, he employs himself in forming a prince to succeed him, and make him the happiness of his subjects.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

A Complete and Exact LIST of all the RECORDERS of the City of LONDON; together with the several Promotions they obtained in the Law, from the Accession of James I. to the present Year 1773.

JAMES I. 1603.

HENRY MONTAGUE, Esq. of the Middle-Temple, son of Sir Edward Montague; made king's serjeant 1610; lord chief justice of King's Bench Nov. 18, 1616; lord treasurer in Dec. 1620, and the same month created Viscount Mandeville; lord president of the council Sept. 29, 1621; created Earl of Manchester at the coronation of King Charles I. 1625; lord privy seal 1627; and died Nov. 1642, aged 79.

N. B. His great grandson Charles was created Duke of Manchester, April 1719, and his grandson George is the present duke.

Nov. 18, 1616.

Thomas Coventry, Esq. one of the judges of the Sheriffs court; solicitor general and knighted March 14, 1617; attorney general Jan. 11, 1621; lord keeper of the great seal Nov. 1, 1625; created Lord Coventry April 10, Dec. 1772.

1628; died January 14, 1640, aged 61.

N. B. His grandson Thomas was created, April 26, 1697, Earl of Coventry; and his grandson Thomas dying, Oct. 27, 1719, without male issue, the title became extinct in the lord keeper's family.

March, 1617.

Anthony Benn, Esq. of the Middle Temple, knighted the same year, and died the beginning of Sept. 1618.

September, 1618.

Richard Martin, Esq. of the Middle Temple, died Oct. 31, the same year. Of this gentleman much is said in Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*, vol. I. col. 441 of the edit. 1721.

Nov. 10, 1618.

Sir Robert Heath, of Gray's-Inn; solicitor general 1620; attorney general Oct. 1625; lord chief justice of Common Pleas Oct. 26, 1681; removed 1635; accepted being made a judge

Judge of the King's Bench Jan. 1640; lord chief justice of the King's Bench Oct. 31, 1643. This gentleman, at the decline of the king's affairs, went to France, and died at Caen in Normandy in Aug. 1649. See Wood's *Athenæ*, vol. II. among the Fasti, page 26, edit. 1721.

1620.

Robert Shute, Esq. of Gray's-Inn.

1621.

Heneage Finch, Esq. of the Inner Temple, son of Sir Moyle Finch; serjeant at law, 1623;—

CHARLES I.

chosen speaker of the House of Commons 1625; died Dec. 1631, aged 50. His son Heneage was created Earl of Nottingham 1681, whose great grandson George is the present earl.

Jan. 1632.

Edward Littleton, Esq. son of Sir Edward Littleton, of Henley in Salop; made solicitor general Oct. 17, 1634; knighted June 6, 1635; lord chief justice of Common Pleas, Jan. 27, 1640; created Baron Littleton of Mounslow, Jan. 1641; at the same time lord keeper of the great seal; died Aug. 1645.

N. B. A large account of this lord keeper in Wood's *Athenæ*, vol. II. col. 83. edit. 1721.

1634.

Robert Mason, Esq. of Lincoln's-Inn.

1635.

Henry Calthorp, Esq. of the Middle Temple.

Thomas Gardner, of the Inner Temple, knighted; made solicitor general Oct. 1643.

1643.

Peter Pheasant, Esq. serjeant at law, resigned.

1644.

John Glynn, Esq. steward of Westminster, son of Sir William Glynn; elected member for Westminster 1640; serjeant at law 1648, but soon after turned out; at the restoration, 1660, made king's serjeant, and knighted Nov. 16, 1660.

N. B. His son William was created a baronet, 1661, in his father's lifetime, who died Nov. 15, 1666, aged 64.

1648.

William Steele, of Grey's-Inn, Esq. promoted by the then powers to be lord chief baron of the Exchequer in 1655.

June 1, 1655.

Lisleburn Long, Esq. of Lincoln's-Inn, died 1658.

March 18, 1658.

John Green, Esq. one of the judges of the Sheriffs court.

Nov. 3, 1659, just at the Restoration of CHARLES II.

William Wylde, Esq. of the Inner Temple; created a baronet in 1660; king's serjeant in 1661; judge of the Common Pleas in 1668, and of the King's Bench in 1672; died 1679.

April, 1668.

John Howel, Esq. late deputy recorder, surrendered his office 1676.

1676.

Sir William Dolben, of the Inner Temple; king's serjeant in 1677; judge of the King's Bench Oct. 1678; displaced April 1683; restored to be judge of the King's Bench, April 20, 1689, by K. William, and died 1696.

October, 1678.

George Jefferys, Esq. common serjeant, knighted April, 1680; made chief justice of Chester, April, 1680; created a baronet, Nov. 7, 1681, and king's serjeant at law; lord chief justice of the King's Bench, Sept. 28, 1683, and who, in that capacity, exercised the most shocking and cruel barbarities on a special circuit in the west of England; for which inhuman services, the tyrant his majesty, James II. rewarded him with a peerage, and made him lord chancellor, in the room of Francis North, Lord Guilford, deceased, Sept. 28, 1683, in which capacity he continued, till, to save his life from the resentment of an enraged populace, the lord mayor, Sir J. Champion, committed him to the Tower, where, by excessive drinking, he soon put an end to his being in Dec. 1688.

N. B. His only son John, Lord Jefferys, left an only daughter, who, in 1720, became the wife of Thomas Fermor, created Earl of Pomfret, father of the present earl, and several daughters.

May, 1680.

George Treby, Esq. of the Middle Temple, knighted Jan. 22 following, was displaced in Oct. 1683, when the king arbitrarily seized on the government of the city by a *quo warranto*; restored Oct. 6, 1688; made attorney general May 7, 1689, and lord chief justice

justice of the Common Pleas, April 30, 1692; died March, 1701, aged 56.

October 3, 1683.

Sir *Thomas Jenner*, of the Inner Temple; made baron of the Exchequer, Feb. 10, 1686, and a judge of the Common Pleas, July 3, 1688; displaced at the revolution; died Jan. 1, 1707, aged 68.

Feb. 1, 1686, JAMES II.

Sir *John Holt*, of Grey's-Inn; April following king's serjeant; removed April, 1687; lord chief justice of the King's Bench, April 17, 1689; died March 5, 1710, aged 66.

May 12, 1687.

Serjeant *Tate*.

Feb. 20, 1688.

Sir *Bartholomew Shower*, Knt. involuntarily displaced by James II. when his fears compelled him to restore to the city of London its charters and privileges, at the same time those aldermen who had been turned out were replaced, consequently was restored.

Oct. 6, 1688.

Sir *George Treby*, as before mentioned, who was promoted to be lord chief justice of Common Pleas, 1692.

May, 1692, WILLIAM and MARY.

Salathiel Lovel, Esq. knighted; Oct. 20 following, serjeant at law; made a baron of the Exchequer, June 17, 1708; died March 3, 1713.

July 12, 1708, QUEEN ANNE.

Peter King, Esq. knighted Sept. 12 following; lord chief justice of the Common Pleas, Oct. 26, 1714, loco Lord Trevor removed; lord chancellor of England, June 1, 1725, loco Earl of Macclesfield displaced; resigned the seals, on account of his bad health, in Dec. 1733, and died July 22, 1734.

April 10, 1715, GEORGE I.

William Thompson, Esq. knighted July 29, 1725; solicitor general, Feb. 16, 1716; made a baron of the Exchequer, Nov. 27, 1727; died at Bath, Nov. 27, 1739.

Nov. 1739, GEORGE II.

John Strange, Esq. solicitor general, knighted May 10, 1740; resigned the recordership Nov. and the solicitorship Dec. 4, 1742; appointed master of the rolls on the death of W. Forster, Esq. and died May 18, 1754.

December, 1742.

Simon Urling, Esq. serjeant at law,

knighted Feb. 18, 1744, and died May 3, 1746.

May, 1746.

John Stracey, Esq. one of the judges of the Sheriffs court, knighted Nov. 25, 1748, and died the next month, viz. Dec. 28, 1748.

January, 1749.

Richard Adams, Esq. then senior city council, obtained it by the casting vote of the lord mayor, Sir W. Calvert, in preference to W. Moreton, Esq. one of the judges of the Sheriffs court; was knighted Nov. 22, 1752; made a baron of the Exchequer, Jan. 1753; now living.

Feb. 15, 1753.

William Moreton, Esq. senior judge of the Sheriffs court, knighted Sept. 19, 1753, and died March 15, 1763.

April 11, 1763, GEORGE III.

James Eyre, Esq. of Gray's-Inn, senior city council; made a baron of the Exchequer, Oct. 25, 1772, and knighted the same day; resigned the office of recordership Oct. 28, 1772.

Nov. 17, 1772.

John Glynn, Esq. serjeant at law, and member of parliament for the county of Middlesex.

To the EDITOR of the LONDON MAGAZINE.

SIR,

HAVING lately seen in the periodical publications some remarks on the ecclesiastical habits, it is submitted to you whether this extract from our canons, on that topic, will be judged interesting or amusing.

PRESBYTER CANONISTA.

Vestitus Ecclesiasticus.

CLERKS shall appear in habit such as shall comport with gravity and decency, without effeminacy or affectation. All beneficed men, those specially in sacred orders, shall have their tonsure as comports with the state of clerks; and if any of them exceed by going in an exterior garment remarkably short and close, with sleeves long or unreasonably wide, not covering the elbow, but pendent; with hair unclipped, with rings on their fingers in public (excepting those of honour and dignity) or exceed in any particular before expressed, such of them as have benefices, unless (within six months) they shall effectually reform

upon admonition given, shall incur suspension from their office *ipso facto*; and, if they continue under it for three months, they shall, from that time, be suspended from their benefice *ipso jure*, without admonition ulterior; and they shall not be absolved from this sentence by their diocesans, till they pay the fifth part of one year's profit of their benefices to be distributed to the poor. If they be unbeneficed, they shall be disabled from obtaining a benefice for four months, and such as are students in the universities and pass for clerks, if they abstain not effectually from the premises, shall be *ipso facto* disabled from taking any degrees or honours ecclesiastic in those universities, till, by their behaviour, they give proof of their discretion as becometh scholars. Yet clerks may have open wide surcoats, called table-coats, with fitting sleeves to be used at times and places seasonable---and may have garments short and close, whilst they are peregrinant in the country at their own direction. Tonsure the shaved spot on the corone of the head---also the whole cut ecclesiastic, or having the hair clipped in such a fashion that the ears, but not the front, might be seen.

Surcoats made to save better cloaths, specially in eating and drinking at home. Archbishops and bishops shall use the accustomed apparel of their degrees. Deans, masters of colleges, archdeacons and prebendaries in churches cathedral and collegiate (being priests or deacons), doctors in divinity, law and physick, bachelors in divinity, masters of arts and bachelors of law, having any benefice ecclesiastic, shall usually wear gowns with standing collars and sleeves, strait at the hands, or wide sleeves, as is used in the universities, with hoods or tippets of silk or sarsenet, and caps quadrangular. And all other ministers shall usually wear the like apparel, as is aforesaid, except tippets only; and all the said persons ecclesiastical above-mentioned shall usually wear, in their journies, cloaks, with sleeves commonly called priest's cloaks, with guards, welts, long-buttons or cuts; and no person ecclesiastic shall wear any coif or wrought night-cap, but only plain night-caps of black silk, fatten or velvet. In private houses

and in their studies, the said persons ecclesiastic may use any comely and scholarlike apparel, provided that it be not cut or pinkt; and in public they may not go in their doublet and hose, without coats or cassocks; and may not wear any light-coloured stockings. Poor beneficed men and curates (not being able to provide themselves long gowns) may go in gowns short, of the fashion aforesaid.

The band is no part of habit canonical; it came in with the puritans and other sectaries, on the subversion of episcopacy, and in a few years afterwards became the habit common of men of all denominations and professions; which, giving way in its turn, was yet retained by men of the long robe (both ecclesiastic and temporal) only because they would not follow every caprice of fashion. Indeed, most of the habits peculiar, both in church and in courts juridical, and in the universities, were, in their day, the common habit of the nation, and were retained by persons, and in places of importance, only as having an air of antiquity; and thereby, in some sort, conducing to attract veneration; and the same, on the other hand, in proportion to persuade to suitable gravity of demeanor.

The BRITISH LAWS incompatible with the MANNERS of the East. With a PLAN for connecting them. — From VERELST's View of the English Government in Bengal.

ONE grand object of this publication is to exculpate the conduct of Mr. Verelst and his associates in the East Indies from the universal odium with which it is branded. It is observed, that the reader, who is conversant with the histories of more settled states, will not be greatly surprised if *some errors* should appear, and will judge with temper the conduct of men, who, compelled by necessity, have acted in a new scene, unaided by experience. It is attempted to demonstrate the impossibility of introducing English laws, or indeed any new system, with facility, into Bengal. The intelligent reader, it is said, will discover that different natures diverge, as it were, still farther from the common centre, until climate, religion, and laws conspiring,

spiring, have formed creatures so dissimilar to each other as might tempt one to rank them under different species. As well might we expect that the Hindoo could change his colour, as that several millions of people should renounce in an instant those customs in which they have lived, which habit has confirmed, and religion has taught them to revere. If this were accomplished, more than half the work would yet remain. They must not only renounce old, but assume new manners. The man must be again created; and this prodigy be effected by unknown laws, repugnant to every thing he had heard, seen, or felt.

The writer continues his observations as follows. —

Our laws would be equally destructive of the people, as ruinous to the government of Bengal. Not to mention the laws relative to religion and domestic policy; not to enumerate the long * train of felonies created by parliament, the rigid punishment of a very few species of crimes might deluge the country with blood.

Women in the East are transferred with little † ceremony, and whether they be wives or concubines, the men seldom await their consent. Were our laws of rape and rules of ‡ evidence enforced, one half of the males would incur the penalty of death. I mean not to justify their practice, but beg leave to suggest that the sword of justice, when too deeply stained with blood, may prove but an indifferent corrector of the morals of a nation. It has before been remarked that the necessities of a people extort many laws from their rulers, some of a very sanguinary nature, which even the savage despot would condemn, when applied to a different state of society. The amazing extent of public and private credit in Great Britain has induced our legislators to punish forgery with death. Under this law a native of Bengal was condemned in the year 1765. But so extravagant did the sentence appear, where experience had never suggested the prin-

ciple, such the disproportion in their eyes between the punishment and the crime, that the principal inhabitants of Calcutta expressed their astonishment and alarm in a petition to the government and council; and upon a proper representation, Radachurd Metre received a pardon.

These, among many other instances which might be given, will suffice to prove the violent effects of introducing the English laws. In other particulars their defect will be as conspicuous as in these their excesses.

A Hindoo had been bribed to procure some papers belonging to a gentleman who died in the company's service. The son caught him in the fact; and, in revenge of his treachery, compelled him to swallow a spoonful of broth. Ridiculous as the punishment may seem, it was attended with very serious consequences. No sooner was his pollution known, than he was degraded from his cast, lost all the benefits of society, and was avoided as a leper by his tribe. When a man is thus disgraced, he is thenceforth obliged to herd with the Hallachos, who can "scarcely be called a tribe, being the refuse of all tribes. These are a set of poor unhappy wretches destined to misery from their birth. They perform all the vilest offices of life, bury the dead, and carry away every thing that is polluted. They are held in such abomination, that, on the Malabar side of India, if one of these chances to touch a man of a superior tribe, he draws his sabre, and cuts him down on the spot, without any check from his own conscience, or from the laws of the country." In this miserable situation was the Hindoo, when Lord Clive desired the Bramins to assemble and consider, if there could be no remission of an involuntary deviation from their law. After many consultations, a similar case was said to have been discovered in the sacred books; but although the Bramins affected a compliance, the man was never restored to his cast.

Their Mahomedan governors of-
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* Not less than one hundred and sixty capital felonies are created by acts of parliament.

† When Col. Clive defeated Surajah al Dowlab, Meer Jaffer sent to offer the colonel some hundreds of Surajah's women, who were taken in the camp.

‡ Girls under ten years of age are incapable of consenting by our law, and therefore the knowledge of them without violence is punished with death.

ten take advantage of this principle, when they want to extort money; and so highly do the Hindoos value their religious purity, that after they have borne the severest corporal punishment rather than discover their wealth, a threat of defilement will effect what torture has attempted in vain. Should this species of oppression be now practised in Bengal, what adequate punishment could our laws inflict for so atrocious an injury? or how can we teach the natives to acknowledge our justice, when rights dearer to them than life are left wholly unprotected?

Happily for the inhabitants of Bengal, this absurd and extravagant system of transplanting English laws, which have grown from the peculiar necessities of a people in the course of several centuries, to a country where the occasions of enacting them never had any existence, is not more ridiculous in speculation than impossible in practice. Independent of the difficulty arising from their abhorrence of oaths, and their ignorance of the language in which our laws are conceived, how impossible would it be to promulgate them to many millions of people; or how could the magistrates obtain a knowledge of transgressors, when the nation were unacquainted with rules to which the idea of offence must relate?

He who will consider how small a portion of what we deem rights in civil society are derived from the first impressions of nature, and that all beyond are mere creatures of law, supported by habits of enjoyment on one side, of acquiescence on the other, will readily conceive the violence with which a sudden change must operate on the feelings of mankind. It is well known that the experiment has already been tried with a nation less dissimilar than the Hindoos to our own, but without success. The power of conquerors in Canada could give only a nominal existence to our laws. They were established indeed by the magistrate, yet rejected by the people: and property is now distributed according to their former customs, unsupported by public authority.

To preserve to a conquered nation their laws, customs, and magistrates, humanity, justice, and sound policy will equally demand. To connect

this government, so preserved, with that of Great Britain, may well deserve the attention of parliament. How this can be effected we now proceed to examine.

Delegated power in Asia has ever been moderate in the exercise. The reason is obvious; the interest of the despot has no relation to the passions and follies of his servant, who is readily sacrificed when he affords cause of complaint, or interrupts the tranquillity of his master. On the contrary, when governors are entrusted by free states with absolute power over a conquered people, this authority has always been abused. Witness the desolation of the Roman provinces, where the laws against peculation rather increased the oppression. In free states, it is impossible to inflict an adequate punishment upon a man whose criminality can be ascertained by no settled rules, but must result from the whole of his conduct. The power of the judge in a free country is limited by the strict letter of law; and the formalities of justice increase in proportion to the value set on the honour, fortune, liberty, and life of the subject.

The nature of the people, and the relation in which they stand to us, render impossible a free government in Bengal; and our laws are inadequate to the controul of distant governors armed with such extensive authority as must ever be upheld in India. It becomes necessary, therefore, to interpose some check upon the spot, and give the natives an administration of justice not immediately dependent upon the will of their rulers. Assuming also the proposition, that we must continue to the natives their laws and customs, both civil and religious, it follows, that the judges who administer justice must be taken from among themselves. As this would lead to independency, it is necessary, that the governor and council, being the supreme power in Bengal, should have authority to issue edicts from time to time; but as it is the nature of legislation, that its provisions should be *general*, and not directed to a *particular* object, these edicts should have no effect until — months after they had been registered in the supreme court of English judicature.

Laws have no power, unless the observance

servance be enforced by the sanction of punishment; and as a conquered people are to be held in subjection, this power must reside in the conquerors. Were this authority entrusted to the legislators, two powers, which ought ever to be distinguished, being united in the same persons, would be liable to abuse.

The supreme judges of our English court, who will have no other concern with the ordinary administration of justice throughout the country, should therefore punish the native judges for non-observance of the edicts, refusal to hear and determine, or for gross partiality and corruption.

Such a government would be too limited in its operations to repress crimes which immediately affect its safety. Infinite would be the means of conspiring against the state condemned by no previous law. While, therefore, the ordinary administration of justice continues in other hands, a political power of punishment must exist in the governor and council, like to that assumed by the prince in the absolute monarchies of Europe. This power might extend to sending Europeans home, and to punish in another manner the native of India.

Our government will yet partake the greatest imperfection incident to a despotic state. Its existence can alone be preserved by a numerous army, which experience has ever taught us to think formidable to absolute rulers, whose interests are not blended with those of any order of men. In Bengal, this army is moreover composed of natives, while all dominion throughout the country has been transferred to a few strangers. Independent, therefore, of the encouragement due from every state to the cultivator of the land, without insisting upon the consequent increase of population and commerce, regard to our own safety requires that we should give the native a permanent interest in the soil, and teach him to consider the preservation of his own fortunes as involved with the safety of his masters.

Should this arrangement be attempted by granting small portions of land at a moderate rent; should the right of the tenant be evidenced by registers of these pottahs or leases, established in every district, perhaps the security of

such a tenure might prove an invitation to other proprietors. Those who possess lands by claims of a different nature might gladly relinquish a part of the profits for a title which could never be questioned. While the peninsula of India swarms with inhabitants, the waste lands of Bengal could not long remain uncultivated. With an improving revenue, the company might remit the imposts upon commerce with their long train of evils; and thus, by simplifying every right, and ascertaining every claim, remove the occasions of oppression. To enforce a prompt administration of justice would not then be difficult, where the proceedings are public, and where the judge could rarely shelter a fraud under the cloak of error. Each individual possessing a sure property in the produce of his toil, industry will diffuse its blessings; and Bengal may reach a height of prosperity heretofore unknown in India. The wounds which this country has sustained are great, and the severe checks which industry has here received, might, in a more northern climate, almost starve a people. But in Bengal, where the demands of nature are few, where manufactures from various causes have been preserved amidst successive revolutions, these losses will be quickly retrieved. While by such means all orders of men being combined in one common interest, the enemies of Great Britain will be for ever excluded from India, and London become the greatest emporium of Europe for the various produce of the East.

The progress to this state of improvement must nevertheless be slow. Sudden changes in property or government are always dangerous, and the hand of power can produce nothing but confusion. Even in laying the foundations of order we must follow the genius of a people, we must attend to their habits, and even respect the prejudices they have imbibed. If, relinquishing the airy schemes of projectors, the wisdom of the British nation should be employed in devising a simple form of government for Bengal; if, happy in giving peace to millions, some enlightened minds should watch with parental care over a growing empire, posterity may behold with admiration a noble monument of national

tional humanity, and the praise of arts, of science, and of arms, serve rather to adorn than constitute the future character of the British nation.

A N E C D O T E

Of the celebrated HOGARTH.

IT happened, in the early part of Mr. Hogarth's life, that a nobleman came to him to sit for his picture, who was uncommonly ugly and deformed. It was executed after the necessary sittings, with a skill that did honour to the artist's abilities; but the likeness was rigidly observed, without the necessary attention to *compliment* or *flattery*.---The peer, disgusted at this counterpart of his dear person, never once thought of sending for a *reflection*, that could only insult him with his infirmities, or deformities he never perceived. Some time was suffered to elapse, before the artist applied for his money; but afterwards various applications were made by him (for then he had no need of a banker) for the payment for the picture: as many evasive answers were returned to these applications. The painter, however, at last hit upon an expedient, which he knew must alarm the nobleman's pride, and on that account answer his purpose.—'Twas couched in the following card:

"Mr. Hogarth's dutiful respects to Lord ———; finding that he does not mean to have the picture, which was drawn for him, he is informed again of Mr. H.'s necessity for the money: if therefore his lordship does not send for it in three days, it will be disposed of, with the addition of a tail, and some other little appendages, to a Mr. Hare, the famous wild-beast man, Mr. Hogarth having given that gentleman a conditional promise of it for an *exhibition picture*, on^e his lordship's refusal."

It had the desired effect. The picture was sent for home, and committed to—the fire!

A COMPARISON of a LIVING KING with a DEAD one.

MUCH has been said about his M—'s generous encourage-

ment of literature; his taste has been extolled, and servile courtiers have cried him up as a very *Mecænas*. That his books may be well bound, properly arranged, and in excellent condition, is readily granted; but we must have something like proofs before we can, with propriety, rank him amongst the number of those princes who have fostered Genius and raised the drooping head of Science. It is not to countenance a pantaloon fidler; it is not to pension renegade Italians for thrumming upon a harpsichord; it is not to keep a table for he-warblers, cut out for singing; it is not these things that constitute a patron of arts or sciences; it is something more worthy, more becoming a king. Louis the XIVth, tho' himself no scholar, was a lover of learned men: his ministers were chosen on account of their abilities, and his court was filled with such men as could transmit his actions unsullied to posterity. Louis had a greatness of soul, a sublime relish for true glory, none of your knickknackery of genius; his encouragement was a testimony of merit, and to gain his patronage was a sure token of possessing exalted abilities: whereas now — but the comparison would disgust, and depreciate this frivolous age below contempt. Now a Bacon, a Locke, a Bolingbroke, or a Swift, would repine in obscurity; whilst a maker of a pap-spoon, a pair of nut-crackers, or the contriver of a watch to go without winding up, would be stared at as a phenomenon, loaded with presents, and handled by the maids of honour as a being dropped from the satellites of Jupiter.

Secret of recovering the Writing upon Parchments decayed by Time, and making it legible.

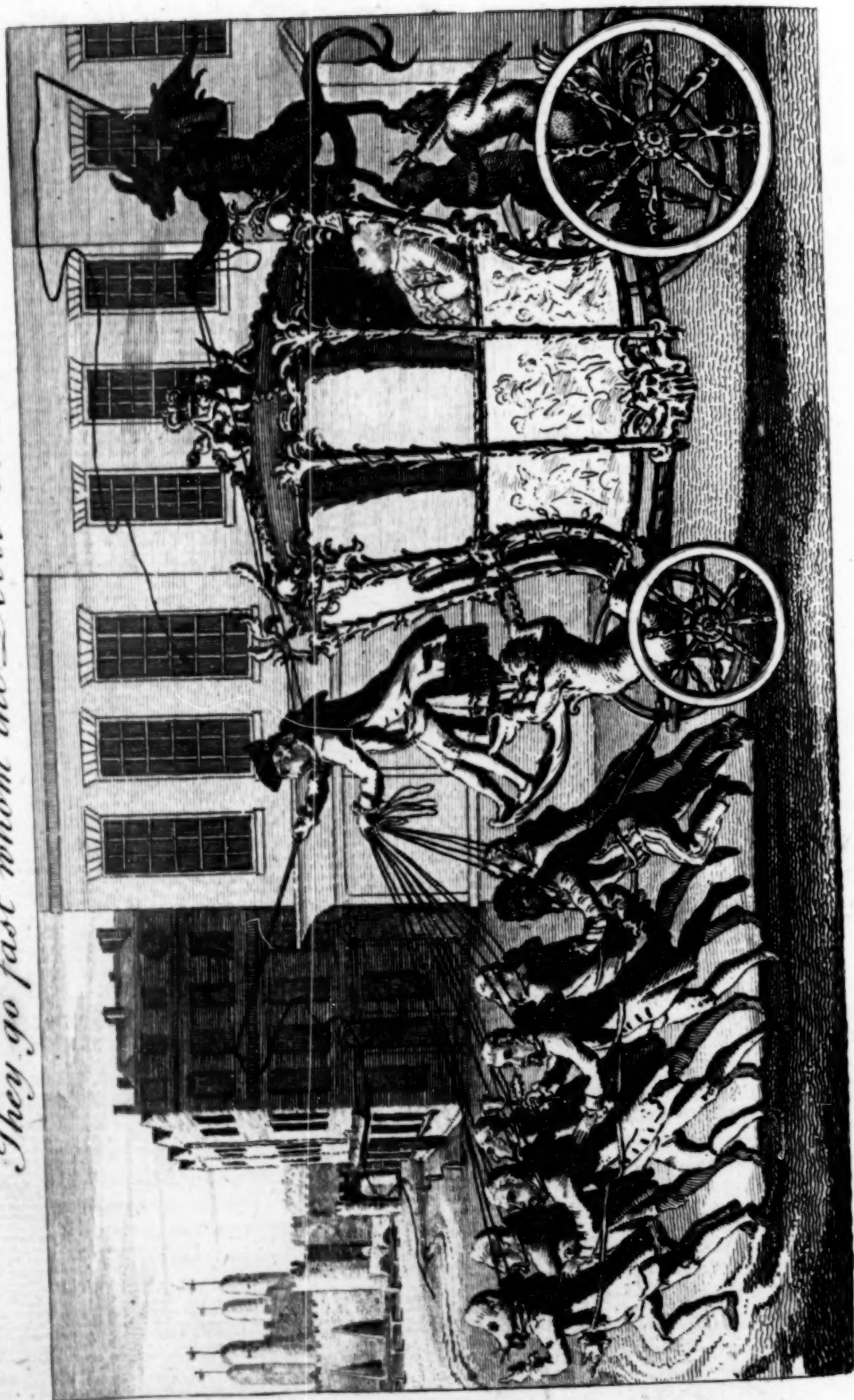
DIP the the parchment obliterated by time into a vessel of cold water, fresh drawn from the well: in about a minute take it out, and press it between two papers, to prevent its crumpling up in drying. As soon as it is moderately dry, if it be not then legible repeat the operation two or three times. The skin will then resume its pristine colour, and will appear all alike.

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The SERRATE HACKNEY COACH.

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For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

THE STATE HACKNEY-COACH.

(With an elegant Representation of it.)

A DIALOGUE between a Politician and a Chinese.

Pol. **M**OST sage Chinese, I am glad to see thee. Did I not tell thee we should meet again?*

Chin. You did so, and I have long wished for the interview, --- But tell me, my dear friend, tell me what object now engages your study? What new effort of genius now rises from your thought and pencil?

Pol. Behold it there. ---

Chin. I see it. --- Bless me! what strange figures, and how strangely employed! --- I confess myself struck with surprise.

Pol. Suppress it then. You ought not to be surprised at the grotesque images of the imagination. 'Tis a picture of Fancy. That airy being, you know, when she flies, unbridled and unchained, through the regions of Romance, will always produce *strange things*: --- but, 'tis fifty to one, without a possibility of applying them to one object of reality. For could you imagine, my good Chinese, that MAN, dignified and lordly as he is, should descend to the business and occupation of brutes --- *to be bridled, harnessed, and draw in a carriage*?

Chin. No, 'tis impossible.

Pol. I thought so. --- And yet, my good Chinese, (for the sake of the argument) suppose it were not impossible.

Chin. Explain your meaning.

Pol. If men, throwing off all the noble pride of honour and virtue, bend themselves to the slavish humours of the will of another -- if they stoop to the dirty drudgery that is imposed upon them --- in short, if they submit their necks to the yoke of slavery, bridled, harnessed, and obeying the lash, are they not, in truth, on a level with *beasts of burden*, or *hackney-horses*?

Chin. The resemblance, I confess, is not very distant.

Pol. It is not --- and yet my picture has no real meaning. The figures delineated there, you know, can be (at best) but *representatives*.

Chin. True --- but whence did you borrow your idea of your *horses*?

Dec. 1772.

Pol. Why, (still for the sake of the argument) I tell you that I picked all my *horses* from a place which is well stocked with them --- from the *king's stable*.

Chin. Your allegory, then, would seem to imply, that the person who drives them is the king's coachman?

Pol. Right --- It is he who *sits in the highest seat*, you see, and *holds the reins* in his hand.

Chin. I observe him. --- Come we now to the black gentleman in the rear. Do me the favour to tell me who he is.

Pol. O --- he is a great privy counsellor --- one who has long guided all the councils and ministers in Europe. --- But he will tell you himself --- Consult the writing upon the top.

Chin. Well, but the gentleman in the carriage --- He seems much at his ease.

Pol. Ay, he is *picking his teeth*. Fond of his ease, and careless of his interest and fame, his servants drive him where they list. Yet a little while, and he will look about him: he will be roused when his head begins to strike against the

.....

..... *Cæterum deest.*

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

Directions to People in Love.

THE passions have great influence upon the human frame. They frequently create both the cause and cure of diseases. How mind acts upon matter will in all probability ever remain a secret. It is sufficient for us to know, that there is established a reciprocal influence betwixt the mental and corporeal parts, and that whatever disorders the one likewise affects the other.

Love is the strongest of all the passions: at least, when it becomes violent,

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* See the Picture of Europe in our Magazine for last September.

lent, it is less subject to the controul of either the understanding or the will than any of the rest. Fear, anger, and several other passions, are necessary for the preservation of the individual; but love is necessary for the continuation of the species itself: it was therefore proper that this passion should be deeply rooted in the human breast.

Though love be a strong passion, it is seldom so rapid in its progress as several of the others. Few persons fall desperately in love all at once. We would therefore advise every one, before he tampers with this passion, to consider well the probability of his being able to obtain the object of his love. When that is not likely, he should avoid every occasion of increasing it. He ought immediately to fly the company of the beloved object; to apply his mind attentively to business or study; to take every kind of amusement; and above all to endeavour, if possible, to find another object which may engage his affections, and which it may be in his power to obtain.

When love becomes a disease, it is not easily cured. Its consequences in this case are often so violent, that even the possession of the beloved object will not always remove them. It is therefore of the greatest importance early to guard against its influence: but where the passion has already taken too deep hold of the mind to admit of being eradicated, the beloved object ought, if possible, to be obtained. Nor should this be deferred for every trifling cause. Those who have the disposal of young persons are too ready to trifle with the passion of love: such, for the most sordid considerations, frequently sacrifice the future health, peace, or happiness of those committed to their care. Even the conduct of parents themselves in the disposal of their children in marriage is often very blameable. An advantageous match is the constant aim of parents; while their children often suffer a real martyrdom between their own inclination and the duty they owe their parents. The consequence is generally obvious --- the ruin of the children, and the regret of the parents.

EPITAPH--LAW and LAWYERS.. PAINT and WASHES.

[From *Jeineriana, or the Book of Scraps,*
just published.]

E P I T A P H.

' *Here lies the Body of MRS. POWER,*
' *Who delighted in doing Good every Hour.*

THIS rustic epitaph I stumbled upon in SUTTON, or SUTTON-COLDFIELD church-yard in WARWICKSHIRE, about fifteen years ago--- and I hope it is to be found there yet.

If any imagine it fictitious (which is not very material) they may be satisfied of the truth, by consulting the parish-register.

The memory of private good is seldom long lived--Inscriptions soon wear out, and stones moulder away.

But, in my opinion, this inscription ought to be kept up at the expence of the parish --- and Mr. PASTOR, for the time being, should not, for the sake of his flock, suffer such a moral lesson to be obliterated.

An annual lecture, at the expence of some five pounds, to which both town and country should be invited --- upon the words, *He went about doing good!*---or, *go! and do thou likewise*---with a particular reference to Mrs. POWER's tombstone, might be productive of much good ---

I can't tell you how much---but, perhaps, far more than we are aware of---more, I am persuaded, than new-gilding an old trumpery, periwig-pated statue---new varnishing the clock-case and sun-dial---new painting the churchyard rails.

As I hope to be happy, and most cordially with the felicity of all my fellows!---was I a parishoner there, I would sooner subscribe to it---than to an annual ball, a bonfire, or a bull-baiting.

LAW AND LAWYERS.

THE law of personal arrests for debt (as it is managed and abused throughout the kingdom) calls aloud for redress.

It cries to heaven!---and blasts the reputation of a country, in what it so superiorly gifted above all others -- its wisdom and its liberty!

It is not to be justified by any mo

of reason---for it is against all right reason---nor even to be palliated.

Every individual has it in his power, under the common privilege of personal arrests for debt, to be the immediate executioner of his fellow.

A designing man, under the mask of friendship, may intice an unwary into his books---promise him time for payment---and throw him into prison the next hour.

Any one may gratify his revenge upon another---by the medium of a slip of parchment.

There are shops, where they are publickly sold, like common traffic---nobody knows you, nor cares any thing about you --- you have only to go to one of those, and kiss a nasty book, worn out with beastly thumbs and lying lips---pay your money (no questions asked) and come your ways.

Shall it be at the option of one man to seize upon another, at a moment's warning---to distract his business, destroy his market, ruin his credit, and hurry him to prison, without a hearing?---This in a free country-- in a commercial country too!

Is he to be imprisoned first--when he stands charged with no other trespass but debt---and heard---it may be some three, or six, or nine months after?

What can be more inhuman, than to throw at once --(in an instant!)--- a just debtor into the same situation with the most profligate felon-- in every respect the same, save his fetters?

But his case is still harder than that of the hardened thief, or miscreant traitor---who has undergone an examination, and, upon the judgement of the magistrate, stands committed---

To make him over to a set of merciless villains, called bailiffs---who are a disgrace to the name of officer---and shew rather like hangmen, and tormentors, or hired assassins ---than the sober ministers of justice.

To leave the honest debtor, newly dragged---(without a minute's warning, to provide against an exigency, which, it may be, he foresaw not)--- newly dragged, I say, from his habitation, family, business---in the hands of such a crew!---shut up in a cell, belonging to the caitiff catchpoll; se-

cured by double bolts and bars!---subject to the taunts and insolence of the abandoned minions of his power--- wretches without bowels!

Is the liberty of a free man of a free country---or of a free citizen of any country, to be held so cheap, as to lie at the mercy of such shameless, and remorseless villains --- who live by profligacy, and make a trade of misery, of sin and cruelty?

But lawyers have no cause of complaint on this score, but much the contrary---for here the ruin of thousands commences---suit begets suit, and action quickens action!

Besides, they are exempted---tho' divines and physicians are not ---the dirtiest pettifogger, who has no cause to plead, but the common cause of the distress and destruction of his kind, which he pursues with unwearied application --- can boast a privilege, which the worthiest subjects of ENGLAND (the peerage and the people's representatives excepted) cannot -- FREEDOM from PERSONAL ARREST for DEBT.

Again let us consider this reproachful matter for a moment---

Shall it remain in the power of one subject, at the instant of his will and pleasure, to deprive another of his liberty---to immure him---to give him over to the tormentor; who may deny him the use of pen, ink, and paper---the benefit of a messenger---the conversation of his friends?---and all this under the colour, iniquity, or ill provision of the law?

What Englishman doubts this serious truth?

May not any man, as the law stands at present, and is in daily practice--- by himself, or with the aid of an attorney, swear a false or disputable debt, and thereby obtain a warrant for any sum, against another, who owes him little or nothing---it may be not the tithe of what he has sworn to---or whom, perhaps, he scarcely ever saw---and, upon giving the same to a rascal, who wears the title of officer, shall not the innocent party thereupon be arrested, imprisoned --- it may be assassinated, or conveyed out of the kingdom?---

Have we not a memorable instance of a horrid effect, produced by this egregious oversight in our laws concerning

cerning personal arrests for debt--- enough to make Britons, inhabiting that part of our island called England, tremble --- and foreigners quake, as if seized with the horrors of an Inquisition, or Bastille! --- and, surely enough to have alarmed any wise legislature, jealous of the public freedom, and no less of every free individual, to guard against every possible mischief of that kind in future? --- Yet does not the law stand, for the most part, as it did?

Was not a foreign nobleman, known by the title of the Marquis DE FRATTEAUX---who fled to this kingdom (as it was said and is generally believed) to avoid the resentment of an incensed father, upon some family difference--- and after having resided a considerable time in this LAND OF LIBERTY--- wherein all breathe the breath of FREEDOM---as well BLACKS as WHITES--- according to the late determination of a NOBLE CHIEF JUSTICE! ---

Was not that gentleman, about seventeen years ago, seized by a couple of kidnapping bailiffs--- armed with the authority of a writ--- whereto was sworn a large sum of money against him--- a debt which he had never contracted? ---

Was he not, under that pretext, taken from MARYBONE where he lodged, to the house of one of the assassins --- thence, by the said ruffians, put on board a ship, and by them conveyed to FRANCE? --- since when he has never more been heard of.

Was any particular search made after those villains? --- (one of whom, I am told, is yet living in a neighbouring sea-port of France) --- Ought they not to have been demanded, sooner than robbers, or even murderers? --- as having brought a scandal upon our laws; under colour whereof, they had perpetrated a crime, for which they should have been pursued to hell's gates for their destruction! ---

'But wherefore strain your lungs so about the scoundrels? --- for, after all you have said, I question much whether their offence exceeded a three and four-penny, or a six-and-eight-penny misdemeanor--- and begging pardon upon their marrowbones, of course, and promising never to do the like again--- till they had as fair an opportunity.'

I believe you are in the right: --- A couple of well-tongued counsel, well fed --- might, possibly, have brought it to that easy issue.

The FATE of FRATTEAUX may be frequently acted over again --- Why not? --- It would have afforded a pretty subject for an historical play, had it happened about the beginning of the last century---

And if such mighty mischief rarely happens--- as crimes of the greatest turpitude, like comets, blaze not every day--- it argues the vilest of the people, bad as they are, to be better than that law, which leaves an opening for them to commit the most detestable offences.

But there are many misfortunes, numberless evils arising from that fell mischief, that crooked channel, which few can judge of! --- 'Tis true, they generally light upon the poor, and those who are without means to redress themselves.

Law is expensive--- so that the poor must be contented to sit down quietly with their injuries, lest a worse fate befall them. --- What can a man do, who has no money? --- for there's no going to market, even in *forma pauperis*, without it.

To all this, the lawyers, who have no other word but ACTION in their mouths, reply---

'The injured have their action--- Any person arrested has only to pay the money, or put in bail (which will gain him some time for payment) or defend the action at common law.'

But suppose he can't find bail--- being charged with a much heavier debt than he owes--- which would plainly appear upon trial--- the plaintiff, he is fully persuaded, not being able to prove one fourth, it may be, not a tenth of what he has cruelly laid upon him. --- This circumstance, however, greatly alarms his friends (as they are called in the language of the world) who thereupon fly him. --- Or the arrest is entirely false, groundless, malicious! --- Nevertheless his friends keep aloof, and watch to see how Providence will enable him to get over it.

'In either case, 'tis very hard --- but, notwithstanding, if he can't bail --- why, he must go to prison.'

What, and try the merits afterwards?

'Ay, if he chuses it.'

Is there no other alternative?

'None.'

That's a defect indeed! --- not but that I think the debtor's body is his creditor's --- so says the law of most countries; antient and modern, jewish and gentile, pagan and christian --- Let him take it! --- But first, let us be well assured he has a right to it.

And even then, says the desponding debtor, he cannot hold it for ever! --- The Jews had their sabbatical year of release --- and our christian acts of insolvency commonly come round every seventh year.

PAINT and WASHES.

TO you, my fair readers, this article is particularly addressed --- and heaven send it may have a happy influence upon some of you!

What a collection of filth and trumpery have we here! --- paint and pastes! grease and washes! --- choicely disposed, and carefully preserved in boxes and gallipots, in pans and platters!

What a labour to live, if all these are necessary!

Know ye not the wretches who invented and compounded them? --- Why then I'll tell you. ---

They were of human form, such as made a livelihood of cheating and corrupting the understanding of frailest humanity.

They would, by the gross, sell lovely ladies (once sparkling) eyes --- for no more than twelve-pence! --- to be afterwards dissected, displayed, and retailed in object-glasses!

Strip softest skins! (once pure and lily white, now parched and crufted!) --- and vend them to beastly chapmen for basest purposes --- at less than half a crown a hide! --- (they deserved not a comelier name, nor a better price, by that time.)

Pluck out their pearly teeth! --- and wantonly sell them to idle boys, for chuck-stones, at doits a dozen!

Their delicate nails! --- they valued no more than the rude parings of their own!

Their dainty locks! --- (once descending in sweetest ringlets!) --- by wicked artifice much changed in hue --- would they next mischievously eradicate! --- still drawing out, from day to day, by hairs and handfals, till

they had not left them a single hair upon their heads!

"That was wanton cruelty indeed! --- for what end could they answer?"

None but the most vile! --- for the life was gone! --- much better might be gathered among the mansions of the dead, even after several years interment! --- Still they might be useful in some sort --- nothing is cast away in a trading nation --- they might serve to stuff cushions and pack-saddles.

Think what time you waste in deforming, where you propose decoration and amendment!

Think to what nobler purposes that time might be allotted!

Think what pains you take to render yourselves distasteful, whom Nature has made so charming, so inviting! --- sweetest of all her sweets!

A moment's reflection will point out to you, that no ingratitude towards heaven can equal your's.

Figure to yourselves the most haughty and horrible spectre that ever afrighted fancy made up! Such is the figure of that monster --- *Ingratitude towards heaven!*

What lifts the head, and gracefully falls the shoulders-- like INNOCENCE?

What vermilion can vie with the maiden blush of MODESTY?

Only BENEVOLENCE can add lustre to the eye.

The ear is deaf to true harmony, at which the voice of Distress finds not a ready entrance.

No feeling, like PITY --- no smell, like the fragrant breath of LOVE --- no taste, without GOODNESS!

All paint and washes are pernicious! -- Ye bedaub your minds in the self-same instant that ye decorate your bodies --- ye leave stains there, which no fuller's earth, nor time, can expunge!

Believe me, ladies! nothing clears the complexion, smooths the skin, and keeps wrinkles at due distance --- like Fair Virtue and Fair Water.

The LEARNED ALDERMAN.

The following are the genuine Productions of a certain Country Alderman, not many miles from C --- e.

ALDERMAN N --- G's Proposal.

WHEREAS a multiplicity of dangers are often occurred, by damage

damage of outrageous accidents by fire, we whose names are hereunder fixt, have thought proper, that the necessity of an engine ought by us, for the better extinguishing of which aforesaid outrageous accidents of Almighty God, may unto us happen to make a rate to gather benevolence, for the better propagating such good instruments.

The following note was sent by the same alderman to a person of consequence.

Hon. Sir,

Have sent you a small present, who humbly begs may prove worthy acceptance, which is a hare, who is

Your very humble Servant,
Alderman N——g.

To the EDITOR of the LONDON
MAGAZINE.

S I R,

AS I intend to send you my thoughts on political matters in the course of the winter, I hope you will give the following a kindly reception:

The House of Commons, as if willing to give us an early specimen of what we may expect, opened the business of this session with one of the most daring infringements on the laws that has been made since the reversion of the Middlesex election. I mean, their conduct with respect to the East-India company. The violation of the Middlesex election was one of those grievances which affected the public at large, and which the people, all-powerful, can easily redress, when the time shall come that they will be roused; but the other is a robbery of private property, which is still more alarming, and which we feel more forcibly, because the means of redress are more easy to be wrested from us by the quirks of crown law, and the intrigues of crown lawyers.

Inform me, Sir, whether you can trace any difference in depriving the company of their property, from robbing a private man of his? A private man pays his *Quota* to the crown for protection, and he receives it; his effects are secure, and his house is sacred. The India company acquired immense property by their own private stock; they paid the crown for secu-

ring it to them; and why the crown should take the *pay* and the *property* too, is infinitely beyond my comprehension.

With respect to the appointment of the secret committee, I really do not well know how to think of it. I am lost in astonishment; and am puzzled whether to be angry at the tyranny of the thing, or to laugh at the impudence of it. Pray, Sir, what kind of reception would you give to thirteen stout fellows who would come to your house, and *civilly* desire you to go about your business, while they read over all your papers, and examined every thing in your house? Would you laugh in their faces, or would you run for your blunderbuss? I believe for my own part, I should do the latter: and much has it amazed me, that the directors of the India company did not order the doors of their house to be shut against them. I leave it to the consideration of the learned, whether the order of the house of commons, which authorised the secret committee to enter the India house, might not be considered directly as a *general warrant*.

This has recalled to my memory a similar custom very frequent in Spain: --When the king of Spain takes it into his royal head that any of his subjects has any thing curious or valuable in his possession, he sends him one of his officers, called an *alguazil*. This *alguazil* enters your house, and tells you—"Sirrah, the king, my master, has a mind to know what you have got in your drawers; deliver me all your keys, and you may go and take a walk till I have rifled them." The landlord is obliged to go, and the scoundrel officer carries off whatever he pleases.

Pray, Sir, is not our *secret committee* strangely like their Spanish *Alguazil*?

BOBADIL.

To the EDITOR of the LONDON
MAGAZINE.

S I R,

I AM a great admirer of the dramatic poem called *Elfrida*, now performing at Covent-Garden theatre. I have always allowed to that celebrated composition all the merit which the finest fancy, guided by the correctest taste, could stamp upon it; but, with all

all its winning graces, I can never allow that it is calculated for the stage.

However, this is not my business at present. I leave that to your dramatic critics. What I would point out to your consideration is a want of correctness, which is sometimes to be found even in this chaste poem. The inaccuracies I mean are hardly an object of censure; but the beauties of Elfrida are so numerous and so obvious, that the discovery of any errors in it might excite both the curiosity and surprise of your readers.

Leaving, therefore, the examination of the entire piece to your greater penetration, I shall just point out two inaccuracies, which struck me at the representation of it last night. They deserve to be mentioned, because they are of that kind of general errors which most poets in the English language have adopted. Orgar says to the king,

"Yes, Sir, I here, on a true subject's oath,
Proclaim Earl Athelwold a *faithless* traitor."

When the author shall have made it to appear, that there is in the world such a thing as a *faithful* traitor, then will I confess that his expression is elegant, correct, and necessary. The

tameness, the feebleness of the epithet, as here applied, is notorious; and this vile tautology, in order to fill up the measure of the line, is no less unpardonable than the "feeble expletives" which Pope has rendered ridiculous by laughing at them.

In the Ode, sacred to TRUTH, we read,

"And you, ye host of saints, for ye have known

Each dreary path in life's perplexing maze,
Tho' now ye circle yon eternal throne,

With harpings high of *inexpressive* praise,
Sec."

Inexpressive praise! --- What does this mean? Praise that *does not express any thing*? What a strange assertion!

The truth is, the poet has here, for the sake of his verse, substituted *inexpressive* for *inexpressible*, by which, indeed, he has mended his measure, but spoke nonsense. Instead of "Praise that cannot be expressed--*inexpressible*," he has made it "Praise that expresses nothing--*inexpressive*" If the *licentia valium* extends so far as to substitute words of very different meanings for each other, I beg pardon for what I have said. At any rate, it is giving but a bad example to future poets.

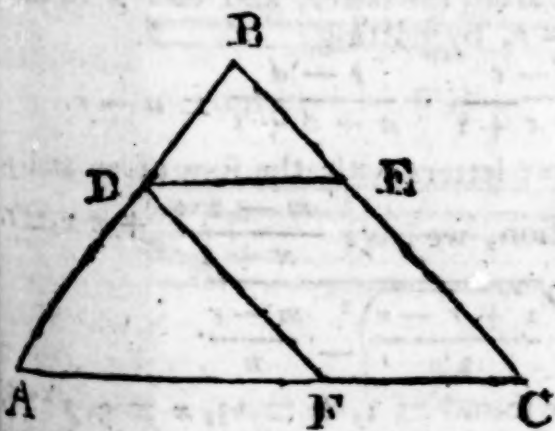
MATHEMATICAL CORRESPONDENCE.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

To SEARCH.

SIR,

AS my demonstration of the thirteenth axiom of Euclid depends on the ratio of similar triangles, the following investigation is offered, to prove that, in equiangular triangles, the sides about the equal angles are proportional.



Let the sides BA and BC of the triangle ABC be divided into any

number of equal parts, by equidistant lines drawn parallel to the side AC, and let DE be one of the dividing lines; then, whatever number of equal parts of the line BA there is between BD, the same number of equal parts of the line BC is between BE. Whence, if BD be the ninth part of BA, then BE is the ninth part of BC; and, by drawing DF parallel to BC, with respect to their parts AD and AF, all which is evident, without referring to any proposition of Euclid. It is also evident, that the triangles ADF, ABC, and DBE, are similar, and that their like sides are proportional is thus made evident. Put $a = AB$, $b = BC$, $d = AC$, then, by what is shewn above, $BD = \frac{a}{n}$, $BE = \frac{b}{n}$, $DE =$

$$EC = \frac{d}{n}, AD = \frac{n-1 \times a}{n}, AF =$$

$$\frac{n-1 \times d}{n}, \text{ and } DF = EC = \frac{n-1 \times b}{n}.$$

Now, by comparing the sides about the equal angles, we find they are ever in the same proportion, *q. e. d.* The reality of the ratio of similar triangles being proved, my demonstration of the axiom is thereby confirmed. Let us now look back into the London Magazine for September, and examine the demonstration: we shall there find it proved, that the lines EL and EB will, if produced, be as far distant from each other as the

length EF. If we suppose the lines EL and EB to be infinitely produced, then EH + X is an infinite quantity; and as an infinite quantity, being either multiplied or divided by any finite quantity, is still infinite: we have

$$\frac{EH + X \times GH}{EH} = R = \text{an infinite}$$

quantity; consequently, at an infinite distance from E, the distance of the lines EL and EB from each other cannot be determined.

Nov. 17, 1772. JOHN PURNELL.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

SOLUTION of the Question proposed by C. M---s in our Magazine of October, page 492.

THE following is a very curious and general solution, by an eminent mathematician, to a question of a similar nature given in a late publication, which will equally serve this.

By adding the first equal to each of the other four, we obtain,

$$vw + v + w = a + b. \quad wx + w + x = a + c.$$

$$xy + x + y = a + d. \quad yz + y + z = a + e.$$

Subtract $2x$ from the sum of the second and third of these, and there will remain $w + y \times x + 1 = 2a + c + d - 2x$. Hence $w + y = \frac{2a + c + d - 2x}{x + 1} = \frac{m - 2x}{x + 1}$: by putting $2a + c + d = m$.

Again, multiply the first of the above equals by x , adding the product to the second of the given original ones plus x ; the second of the above by v , adding to the product the third given plus v ; the third by z , adding the fourth given one plus z ; and the fourth by x , adding the fifth given plus x , and there will result,

$$x \times vw + v + w + vw - y - z = x \times \frac{a + b + 1}{x + 1} + b,$$

$$v \times wx + w + x + wx - y - z = v \times \frac{a + c + 1}{x + 1} + c,$$

$$z \times xy + x + y + xy - v - w = z \times \frac{a + d + 1}{x + 1} + d,$$

$$x \times yz + y + z + yz - v - w = x \times \frac{a + e + 1}{x + 1} + e.$$

Now the former parts of the two first of these being equal, as also those of the two latter, it follows, that the corresponding latter parts must be equal, *i. e.*

$$v \times \frac{a + c + 1}{x + 1} + c = a \times \frac{x + b + 1}{x + 1} + b, \text{ and}$$

$z \times \frac{a + d + 1}{x + 1} + d = a \times \frac{x + e + 1}{x + 1} + e$. Hence finding the value of v from the former of these, and that of z from the latter, and add x to their sum, we obtain $v + x + z = na + a - r$, by putting

$$\frac{a + b + 1}{a + c + 1} + \frac{a + d + 1}{a + d + 1} + 1 = n, \quad \frac{b - c}{a + c + 1} + \frac{e - d}{a + d + 1} = a - r.$$

Then by substituting the sum of the three letters with the sum of w and y , before found in the first original equation, we have $\frac{m - 2x}{x + 1} + nx = r$.

$$\text{Hence is found } x = \frac{2 + r - n}{2n} + \sqrt{\frac{2 + r - n}{2n}^2 - \frac{m - r}{n}}.$$

These being put into numbers, v will be found $= 1$, $w = 23$, $x = 9$, $y = 6$, and $z = 5$, and the letters answering these numbers will compose the following words, A WIFE.

Another

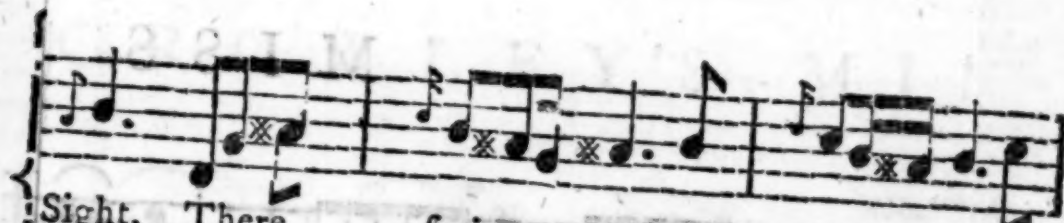
Y M O N.

No. XV.

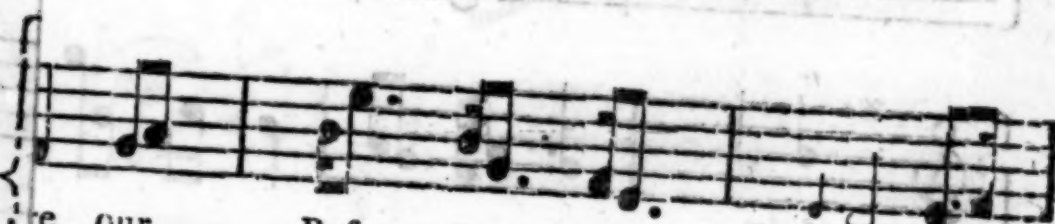
N E.



bound up so fast that they can't be un -



Sight, There springs from their U - nion a



re our Pas - sion to warn, But

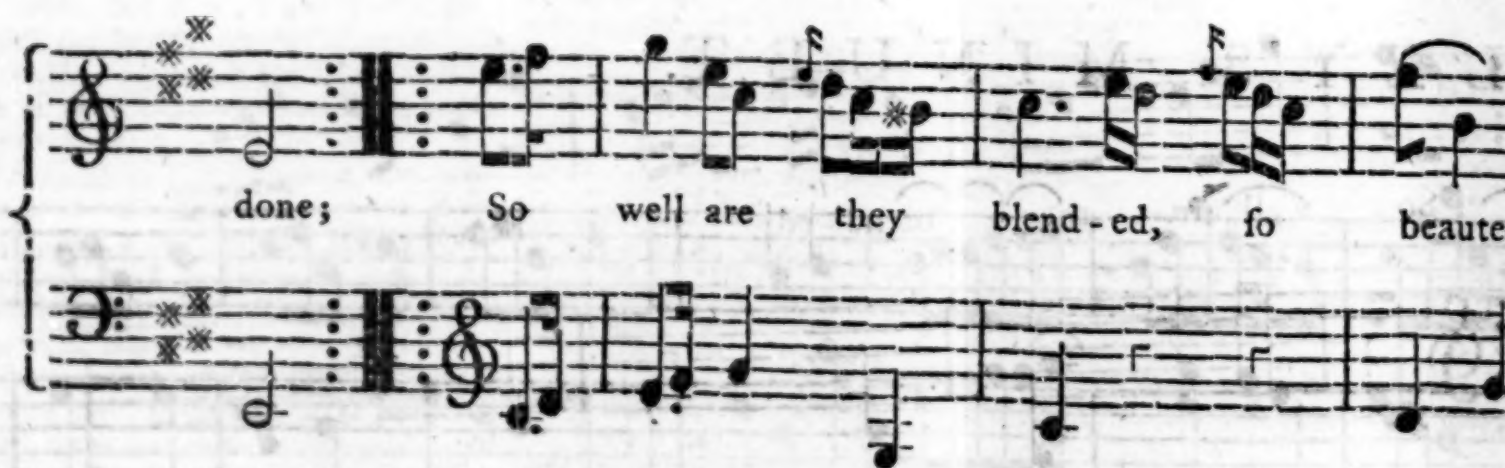
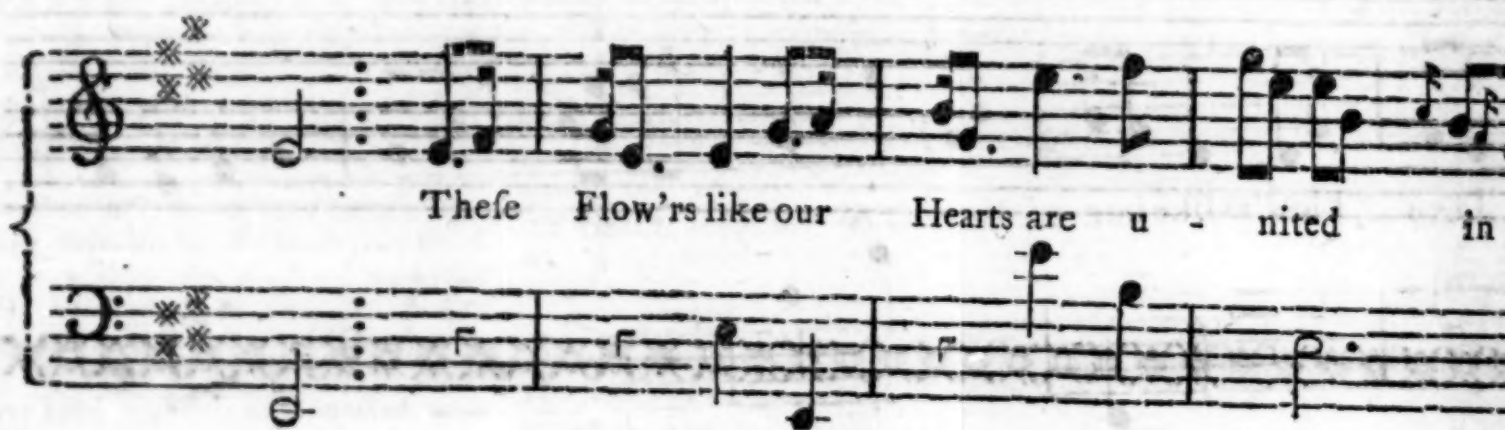


A fa.

A favourite S O N G

Set by Mr. M I C H A

Larghetto

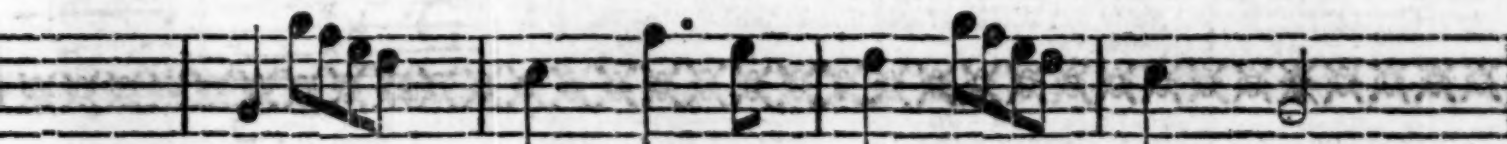


NG in CYMON.

H A E L A R N E.



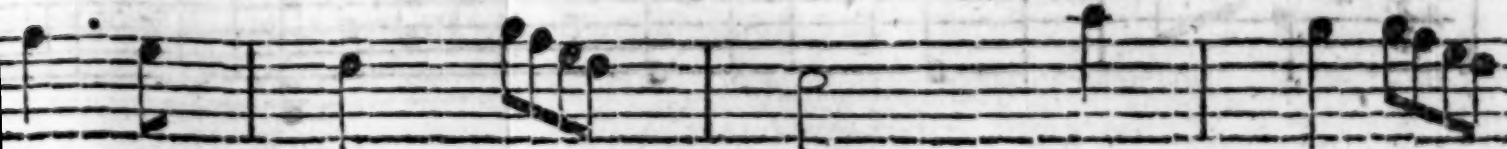
in one, And are bound up so fast that they can't be un -



beauteous to Sight, There springs from their U - nion a



n nor Weed here our Pas - sion to warn, But



A fa.

A favourite S

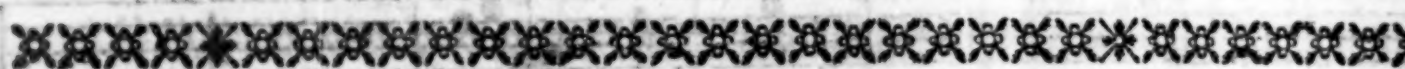
M O M Y O m O

1st 2d tr tr tr

sweet without Bri - ar the ar The

1st 2d

tr tr



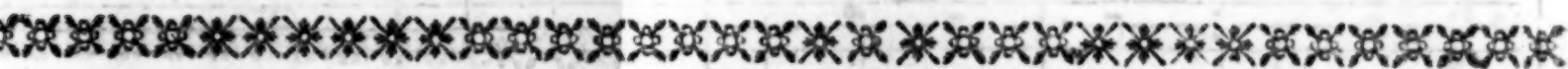
MISS CROWL

tr tr

SONG continued.

tr tr

Rose with - out Thorn.



W L E Y ' S M I N U E T .

ued.

THOUGHT

ON

152

Thorn.

NUET.

Another Answer, by Mr. Brackenbury, at Mr. Cave's School, in Caistor,
Lincolnshire.

FROM the equations proposed, the answer's --- A WIFE,
Who is either the comfort or plague of man's life.

NEW QUESTIONS PROPOSED.

- I. **A** Ship sails S. W. E. S. till her difference of latitude be 200 miles.
Required, her distance and departure.
- II. Two ships were steering in an unknown latitude: the one sailed E. the other sailed W. until they are 140 leagues distant; and then, when it was twelve o'clock with the one, it was only eleven with the other. Required, the latitude they sailed in, and their difference of longitude.

AN IMPARTIAL REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ARTICLE I.

DOMESTIC Medicine: or, A Treatise on the Prevention and Cure of Diseases by Regimen and simple Medicines. By William Buchan, M. D. of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, 8vo. 7s. 6d. Cadell.

This author has given us a proof, that every thing valuable in the practical part of medicine is within the reach of common sense. He has introduced into his studies a plainness and a simplicity, which, though absolutely necessary to the utility of mankind, have been hitherto unconnected with physic. He has treated distinctly the prevention, cause, and cure of the several diseases which the several degrees of mankind are most liable to; and his rules are within the reach of every capacity — a certain proof that they are good.

II. *A View of the Rise, Progress, and present State of the English Government in Bengal: Including a Reply to the Misrepresentations of Mr. Bolts, and other Writers.* By Harry Verelst, Esq. late Governor of Bengal. 4to. 12s. Nourse.

The chief intent of this publication is to apologize for those scenes of iniquity which Mr. Bolts discovered to the public eye in his book on India affairs. This necessarily includes an attempt to invalidate the facts described by Mr. Bolts. The greatest number of them, however, are still uncontroverted. The writer, aware, probably, of the difficulty attending the combating of plain facts, has rested great part of his cause upon acute investigations in philosophy and manners. Some fallacious argument is used even in this part of the book, a specimen of which our readers will find in the preceding part of our publication.

A numerous appendix of authentic papers, forming more than one half of the whole book, is added.

III. *Essays on the Spirit of Legislation, in the Encouragement of Agriculture, Population,* Dec. 1772.

Manufactures, and Commerce. Translated from the original French. 8vo. 5s. Nicoll.

These Essays gained the premiums offered by the society of Berne in Switzerland for the best compositions on this subject. They contain the best improvements which have been introduced into the system of internal politics practised in Switzerland — the only country in the world where the magistrates are philosophers. We cannot praise the translation.

IV. *A View of real Grievances, with Remedies proposed for redressing them. Humbly submitted to the Consideration of the Legislature.* 8vo. 5s. 3d. Baldwin.

This author is a man of acute observation, and seems to have been urged to his studies by motives of real patriotism. His intelligence has been drawn from experience, and his remarks are founded upon good sense. He has in this work treated the most important objects of the internal police of this kingdom; and, from a series of innumerable facts, he has deduced observations which are highly worthy of the attention of the legislature.

V. *Joineriana; or, The Book of Scraps.* 8vo. 5s. Johnson.

This is one of those whimsical books which an extreme refinement has introduced into the republic of letters. A variety of subjects, classed alphabetically, are treated in a very cursory manner; or rather, it is a collection of detached thoughts upon particular subjects. The most conspicuous thing in these volumes is the author's humanity — which ought to atone for all their faults.

VI. *Observations on the Structure and Draught of Wheel-Carriages.* By J. Jacob. 4to. Dilly.

These observations are drawn from practice, and are illustrated with plates. Some points relative to the structure of wheel-carriages, which were lately contested, will probably be decided by them. The author, however,

however, has not published them as decisive, but for the examination of the judicious artists.

VII. *A Treatise upon the Trade from Great Britain to Africa; humbly recommended to the Attention of Government.* By an African Merchant. 4to. 6s. in boards, Baldwin.

Perhaps it may be sufficient to observe on this book, that the society of African merchants were so well convinced of its merit, that they have voted public thanks to be given to the author of it. The language is but plain; nor is the method very artful: but no subject, perhaps, stood in less need of adventitious assistance.

VIII. *A Practical Introduction to English Grammar and Rhetoric.* By Abraham Crocker, Schoolmaster at Ilminster. 12mo. Robinson.

This little introduction is intended to be preparatory to Lowth's English Grammar, which the author supposed to be too difficult for the conception of young minds. The method of instruction adopted by the author is, by question and answer. The plan is extremely simple, though probably too concise; but is it possible the author should believe, that *he sings, or singeth*, is the third person singular of past time — as he has printed it? — In the *Rules for Reading*, the latter part, relative to the passions, is useless: the passions, when it is necessary, will always teach the orator to act as he ought. His feelings will be his best guide.

IX. *A Summary of the Roman Law, taken from Dr. Taylor's Elements of the Civil Law. To which is prefixed a Dissertation on Obligation.* 8vo. Payne.

As a summary, we cannot help thinking that this work is too vague. Many things are said which are unnecessary, and some necessary things are omitted.

X. *The Irishman; or, The Favourite of Fortune.* 12mo. 5s. Goldsmith.

This author, in the incidents of his history, has not sufficiently attended to probability. He who paints from nature must hold his pencil steady.

XI. *Lucubrations of Gaffer Greybeard; containing many curious Particulars relating to the Manners of the People of England during the present Age; including the present State of Religion, particularly among the Protestant Dissenters. In a Series of Letters, on a Plan entirely new. To which is prefixed, An Analysis and a Scale.* 12mo. 5s. Roson.

The author, in the beginning of his book, promises to give a view of the state of the religion, laws, and manners of England. These two volumes, however, are filled solely with the history of the various sects of religion in Great Britain: from which we are taught to expect a continuation of the work. The author discovers penetration, and some rancour, in his description of the dissenting sects. Those who are not versed in the pre-

sent state of the religious sectaries in these kingdoms may view it here with very little trouble.

XII. *Frederic; or, The Fortunate Beggar. Wherein is displayed the various Events in Human Life. In a Series of Letters copied from Originals.* 12mo. 5s. Roson.

This sagacious author discovers himself even in his title-page. He professes to display the *various events in human life*, and to be sure he has done it!

XIII. *The History of Tom Rigby.* 3 vols. 12mo. 9s. Vernor.

This is one of the best new novels we have seen for some time. It is greatly superior to those dull duodecimos which are continually issuing from the circulating libraries. The author has been singular enough to draw characters which really may belong to human nature, and to describe scenes which are within the compass of plain probability. What an unfashionable novelist!

XIV. *The Sentimental Sailor; or, St. Preux to Eloisa. An Elegy. In two Parts, with Notes.* 4to. 2s. 6d. Dilly.

This poetical letter is supposed to be written by St. Preux to Eloisa in his voyage round the world with Lord Anson. The sentiments are taken from the *Nouvelle Heloise*, and the author has done little more than an attempt to throw them into verse, in the composition of which he confesses "to have had in his eye the lively imagination of the agreeable Ovid, the elegant precision of the sentimental Propertius, and the passionate tenderness of the gentle Tibullus." It is certain he has not succeeded in uniting the graces of these three masters, though his elegy contains many pathetic lines. We conceive that he has more of the feelings than of the powers of a poet.

XV. *An Agreeable Companion for a few Hours, either on the Road or at Home. In several fugitive Pieces. By a Gentleman of the University of Oxford.* 4to. 2s. Newbery.

We are surprised how this author (in particular) found out, that his book would be an agreeable companion to other folks. Now, if we were to contradict him, it is ten to one if he would believe us. However, we confess our poet is no bad imitator of his betters. There is a luxuriance in his fancy, which a few years more will restrain. When this is cropt, he will be a better poet.

XVI. *Alphonso; or, The Hermit.* 4to. 1s. Cambridge printed.

This poem smells of the university — cold, unpoetic, and tedious.

XVII. *The Recantation and Confession of Dr. Kaurick, LL.D.* 4to. 1s. Allen.

Much dull humour upon a bad subject.

XVIII. *The Rambles of Mr. Frankly. Published by his Sister.* 2 vols. 12mo. 5s. Becket.

We really think this Rambler had done better to have staid at home. These volumes, like many other late publications, are written in imitation of Sterne; and they preserve all his irregularity, without any of his spirit. Works of fancy, unsupported by genius, are the most disgusting works we know.

[The good sense of the gentleman, who sent us a *character* of this book, will probably excuse our omitting it. We always chuse to give our own opinion of books — not that of other people.]

XIX. *The Man of Honour; or, The History of Harry Waters, Esq.* 3 vols. 12mo. 9s. F. and J. Noble.

Ex pede Herculem! — This is a very frothy composition. This whole history might have been contained in a slender Shandean volume; but the author has ingeniously *eked* it out into three volumes, by adding various delectable stories, in the manner of *Mother Goose's Tales*. It is fitting that young masters and misses should be amused during these holidays.

POETICAL ESSAYS.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

AD PÆDAGOGUM.

TU, commissa diu fuerat cui mascula pūbes, [unam;
Accipe *fæminei* generis (non ampliùs)
Nec tamen aut dubiam cape, communemve duorum.

Syllaba acutè sonans erit indubitabilis index
Unde *genus* noscas; signacula cætera sunt hæc:
Sit *personalis* perfecta modo atque figura,
Sit flexu facilis, casus formanda per omnes,
Junctura gaudens, et crescens in genitivo;
As in præsentì dabitur, post paulò futurum
Plurali in numero; modò sit concordia rerum,
Debita Syntaxis, metrique Prosodia mater.

Hæcine declinas? Cave ne caruisse gerundis [pinum.

Dicaris, quando hanc habeas, licet usque suis bene, nemo caret genito; excipies ne te ipsum [tivus es? atque

Regulâ ab hæc? quid enim? annon substant-
Per te stare potes? ser opem bonus adjectivæ,
Que nec stare potest, nec significare remota.
Sin bene conjungas bene conjungenda, magister,

Tertia prodibit persona, velut *caro, carnis*,
Incerti generis, *bos, fur, sus, sunt sacerdos*.

Quare age, et ad partes hæc omni mane vocato:

Hæc tibi (ne metuas) bene respondebit et aptè:

Ici istum, *genui genitum, peperì quoque partum*.

Si quod erit regimen dubitas, memor esto dativum

Dandi verba regunt, genitivum verba monendi,
Sed quarto abstineas, et parcius utere sexto.

Hæc te grammaticæ docet ars; hinc nomine cernas

Nomine derivata tuo, sed nec tibi casu
Manca sit aut numero defecta propago, nec orbans

Syncope de medio tollat quod epenthesis infert.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

On the Cup lately presented to a popular Gentleman by the City of London.

SEE! the triumphal cup, where mimic art

With patriot emblems masks a tr-t-r's heart:
Where the vain reptile, big with self-applause,
Shines the great Brutus in his country's cause;
Stern, rigid, dauntless, as that patriot stood,
His dagger reeking with a tyrant's blood,
Tho' vile ingratitude* alone we trace
Of all the features of the Roman face;
And vulgar spite in sculptur'd treason's shewn,
Yet boasts a soul superior to a throne.

But durst the sharpening Exile seek again
A refuge on the purple bank of Seine;
Would bounteous Lewis give his cup to flow
(Tho' cramp'd in wooden shoes his free-born toe)

With the rich juice of the Burgundian vine,
Or brisk Champagne inspire the wit to shine
In loose *bon mot* which scraps of Latin lard,
From gay Petronius or Venusia's bard;
While grinning fops each *jeu d'esprit* admire,
And hail him master of true Attic fire:
In freedom's cause you'd hear the braggard dumb,

Or crouching kneel to kiss the tyrant's boot.

A. B.

A SONG for the FREE MASONS.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

LET Masonry from pole to pole
Her sacred laws expand,
Far as the mighty waters roll,
To wash remotest land!
That virtue has not left mankind,
Her social maxims prove,
For stamp'd upon the mason's mind
Are UNITY and LOVE.

Ascending

* See particular instances of his ingratitude to his best friends in one of the London Chronicles for last month.

Ascending to her native sky
 Let masonry increase !
 A glorious pillar rais'd on high,
 Integrity it's base :
 Peace adds to olive-boughs, entwin'd,
 An emblematic dove ;
 As stamp'd upon the mason's mind
 Are UNITY and LOVE !

E P I T A P H.

VAIN are the sculptur'd effigies of Fame,
 Beneath whose clarion shades forgotten
 lie ;

Vain are the records of the titled name !
 The Muse alone forbids the brave to die !

Why then to thee these honours do we pay,
 Untitled Wolfe, in thine own merits great ?
 Can these preserve thy glories from decay ?

Can marble lengthen their immortal date ?
 Thine obsequies, grac'd with a nation's tears,
 Need not th' assistance of the sculptor's art ;
 Th' historic pen the fairest trophy rears,
 The fairest tablet is a nation's heart !

D—

On Miss H. of Northampton.

I N a vale clos'd with woodland where grot-
 tos abound,
 Where rivulets murmur, and echoes resound,
 I vow'd to the Muses my time and my care,
 Since neither could win me the smiles of my
 fair ;

As freedom inspir'd me I play'd and I sung,
 And H.'s dear name never fell from my
 tongue ;

But if a smooth accent delighted my ear,
 I should with unawares that my H. might
 hear :

With fairest ideas my bosom I stor'd, [ador'd ;
 To drive from my heart the fair nymph I
 But the more I with study my fancy refin'd,
 The deeper impression she made in my mind.
 Ah ! whilst I the beauties of nature pursue,
 I still must my H.'s fair image renew :

The Graces have chosen with H. to rove,
 And the Muses are all in alliance with Love.

LEANDER.

*Extempore to Miss Sophia H. with a Ring
 emblematically forming two united Hearts.*

By a L A D Y.

TWO sister hearts this golden circle binds,
 Expressive emblem of united minds ;
 Be such, my Sophy, ours, nor heed the rules
 Which dull philosophers have taught in
 schools ;

The lambent flame they raise, with so much
 Plays round the head, but never warms the
 heart.

Congential souls at once each other know,
 And in sweet converse form a heav'n below ;

* Orange trees.

Nor waits true friendship the slow hand of
 time, [your'd clime †,
 But like those trees * which grace thy fa-
 Quickly expands, and strength'ning from each
 shoot,
 Bears both at once the blossom and the fruit.

S O N N E T.

*Written by MARY Queen of Scots, in her
 Passage from France to Scotland.*

"Ob ma patrie très chérie !

"Où je passai ma jeunesse," &c.

O H thou lov'd country, where my youth
 was spent,

Dear golden times, all pass'd in sweet content !
 Where the fair morning of my clouded day
 Shone mildly bright, and temperately gay ;
 Dear France, adieu ! a long & sad Farewell !
 No thought can image, and no tongue can
 tell,

The pangs I feel at that drear word farewell !
 The ship that wafts me from thy friendly shore
 Conveys my body, but conveys no more.
 My soul is thine, that spark of heavenly flame,
 That better portion of my mingled frame
 Is wholly thine ; that part I give to thee,
 That in the temple of thy memory
 The other ever may enshrined be.

L. L. LEACHLADE.

*The following little Pieces are taken from the
 Correspondence of Mr. Hughes, just pub-
 lished ; and are not inserted in his Works.*

The WANDERING BEAUTY.

T HE Graces and the wand'ring Loves
 Are fled to distant plains,
 To chase the fawns, or in deep groves
 To wound admiring swains.

With their bright mistresses there they stray,
 Who turns her careless eyes
 From daily triumphs ; yet, each day,
 Beholds new triumphs in her way,
 And conquers while she flies.

But see ! implor'd, by moving prayers,
 To change the lover's pain,
 Venus her harness'd doves prepares,
 And brings the fair again.

Proud mortals, who this maid pursue,
 Think you, she'll e'er resign ?
 Cease, fools, your wishes to renew,
 Till she grows flesh and blood like you,
 Or you, like her, divine !

S O N G S.

I.

THY origin's divine, I see,
 Of mortal race thou can'st not be ;
 Thy lip a ruby lustre shows ;
 Thy purple cheek outshines the rose ;
 And thy bright eye is brighter far
 Than any planet, any star.

† Cadix.

Thy sordid way of life despise,
Above thy slavery, Sylvia, rise;
Display thy beauteous form and mien,
And grow a goddess, or a queen.

II.

CONSTANTIA, see thy faithful slave
Dies of the wound thy beauty gave:
Ah! gentle nymph, no longer try
From fond pursuing love to fly.

Thy pity to my love impart,
Pity my bleeding aching heart,
Regard my sighs and flowing tears,
And with a smile remove my fears.

A wedded wife if thou would'st be,
By sacred hymen join'd to me,
Ere yet the western sun decline,
My hand and heart shall both be thine.

III.

THRICE lov'd Constantia, heavenly fair,
For thee a servant's form I wear;
Though blest with wealth, and nobly born,
For thee, both wealth and birth I scorn:
Trust me, fair maid, my constant flame
For ever will remain the same;
My love, that ne'er will cease, my love
Shall equal to thy beauty prove.

The HUE and CRY.

OYES! — hear, all ye beaux and wits,
Musicians, poets, 'squires, and cits,
All, who in town or country dwell!
Say, can you tale or tidings tell

Of Tortorella's hasty flight?
Why in new groves she takes delight,
And if in concert, or alone,
The cooing murmurer makes her moan!
Now learn the marks, by which you may
Trace out and stop the lovely stray!

Some wit, more folly, and no care,
Thoughtless her conduct, free her air;
Gay, scornful, sober, indiscreet,
In whom all contradictions meet:
Civil, affronting, peevish, easy,
Form'd both to charm you and displease you;
Much want of judgement, none of pride,
Modish her dress, her hoop full wide;
Brown skin, her eyes of sable hue,
Angel, when pleas'd, when vex'd, a shrew.

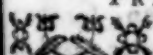
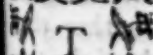

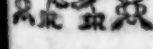
Genteel her motion, when she walks,
Sweetly she sings, and loudly talks;
Knows all the world, and its affairs,
Who goes to court, to plays, to prayers,
Who keeps, who marries, fails or thrives,
Leads honest, or dishonest, lives;
What money match'd each youth or maid,
And who was at each masquerade:
Of all fine things in this fine town,
She's only to herself unknown.

By this description, if you meet her,
With lowly bows, and homage greet her;
And if you bring the vagrant beauty
Back to her mother and her duty,
Ask for reward a lover's bliss,
And (if she'll let you) take a kiss;
Or more, if more you wish and pray,
Try if at church the words she'll say,
Then make her, if you can — "obey."

THE MONTHLY CHRONOLOGER.

L O N D O N.

FRIDAY, November 27.

 HIS day the address of the
 house of peers was presented
 to his majesty at St. James's,
 by a committee appointed for
that purpose, and received the
following most gracious answer.

"My Lords,

"I thank you for this dutiful and affectionate address. The zeal you express in it for the honour of my crown, and the rights and interests of my people, gives me the highest satisfaction.

"I firmly rely, that all your deliberations will tend to such measures as shall be most conducive to the great objects you have before you. Among these, I am sure, you will not forget to provide for the distresses of the poor, as far as it is in the power of human wisdom to alleviate them."

MONDAY 31.

This day the address of the house of commons was presented to his majesty at St.
Dec. 1772.

James's, and received the following answer:

"Gentlemen,

"I return you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful address. The assurances you give me of your resolution to enter into the immediate consideration of the important affairs which I have recommended to you, afford me great satisfaction; and I have the fullest confidence, that you will endeavour, as far as lies in your power, to alleviate the distresses of my people, who are the constant objects of my care and affection."

This day a foreign messenger arrived at the queen's palace, with advice of the princess of Brunswick being safely delivered of a princess, and that they were both as well as could be expected.

The same day there was a levee at St. James's for the first time since their majesties removal from Kew; which is to be continued every Monday during the sessions of parliament.

40

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, Dec. 1.

The keeper of a private mad-house and his wife, being again brought up to the court of King's Bench to receive sentence, after having been found guilty of unlawfully confining and ill treating two women, who had been brought to their house by their husbands, under pretence of being disordered in their minds, the court fined them 6s. 8d. ordered them to pay to each of the women they had so abused 50l. and directed them likewise to pay the costs on both sides. — [See our Magazine for April last, page 196.]

WEDNESDAY 2.

Extract of a Letter from the Hague, Nov. 24.

"According to our accounts from Vienna, the negotiations of peace between the Turks and the Russians are in such forwardness, that there is no doubt of affairs being settled very soon.

"Letters from the Lower Elbe advise, that the King of Prussia and the Duke of Mecklenbourg Schwerin are in treaty for the exchange of the duchy possessed by the latter, for the duchy of Cleves; but it seems to be an affair of too great consequence to be soon adjusted.

"Letters from Copenhagen advise, that the King of Denmark is in a very precarious state of health, and it is thought he is going into a decline. These letters add, that it is observed, as a very remarkable circumstance, that the four principal instruments of the revolution, which happened at Copenhagen in January last, viz. the Count de Rantzow d'Aschberg, General d'Erichstadt, Lieut. Gen. Koller Banner, and the Chamberlain Carstenkiold, are sent away from court, which occasions various conjectures."

This day John Paterfon, Esq. was, by a very great majority, at Guildhall, elected clerk to the commissioners of the land-tax for the city of London, in the room of the late Mr. Deputy Ellis. The lord-mayor was in the chair, and most of the aldermen and commissioners were present. Sir Robert Ladbroke presented Mr. Paterfon's petition, and, after he was elected to that office, moved that he should also be elected clerk to the window lights, to which he was unanimously chosen. The other candidates were Sir James Hodges, and Mr. Till. Mr. Thomas Smith declined before the other gentlemen's names were put up.

The same day a high court of admiralty was held at the Old Bailey, when two sailors were tried for piracy on the high seas, and acquitted. One Innis Johannes was arraigned for the like offence; but his counsel made a motion for postponing the trial till March next, which the court complied with.

FRIDAY 4.

This day his majesty went to the house of peers, and gave the royal assent to the fol-

lowing bills, which passed the house of lords yesterday, viz.

The bill for allowing the free importation of wheat, Indian corn, &c. for a limited time.

The bill for allowing the free importation of wheat, barley, &c. from Africa, or any part of Europe, for a limited time.

SATURDAY 5.

The lord mayor and sheriffs have consented, that their servants shall have the sole profits for admitting persons into the galleries at the Sessions-house in the Old-Bailey, as has been the custom many years, except during the time Mess. Wilkes and Bull were sheriffs.

MONDAY 7.

The chamberlain of London has lately presented to the right hon. the lord mayor and court of aldermen a large sheet finely engraved, exhibiting at one view three accurate tables. 1. The capital convictions at the Old Bailey, and for what crimes. 2. The executions, and for what crimes. 3. The pardons, and for what crimes, during 23 years, viz. from 1749, when he was sheriff, to 1772; with remarks, notes, and many other curious particulars.

A letter from Mecklenburgh says, that a remedy has been discovered there for the distemper incident to the horned cattle. It is no more than feeding the diseased beasts with crab apples. The same fruit put into the water given to cattle to drink has been found to prevent the distemper.

WEDNESDAY 9.

This day a court of aldermen was held at Guildhall, when the petition of the under marshals was laid before the court relative to their suspension, and praying relief from an order made for their attendance on the two city marshals whenever they called upon them so to do. The petition was referred to a committee of aldermen, for them to settle in what manner the under marshals are to act for the future; and whether they are obliged to obey the commands of the two city marshals on every occasion.

The same day the court of common council at Guildhall received the report of the committee, with regard to what steps are proper to be taken for lowering the price of provisions.

At the same time a report from the committee for building Newgate was read, setting forth, that a contractor for masonry work had endeavoured to use stone inferior to what he had contracted for, and that the committee had prevented his using it, upon which he was totally stopt, and the building is now at a stand. Ordered, that the report be referred back to the committee, and that they do prosecute him for not carrying on the building according to his contract.

The lord mayor reported, that he had received a memorial from several consumers of tallow, complaining that the high price was owing to the want of proper markets for that article, and combinations amongst the dealers therein. This was referred to the committee appointed to consider the high price of provisions, to consider thereof, and report to a future court.

The lord mayor then acquainted the court, that he, as the best method to prevent the increase of thieves, had committed a great number of vagrant boys found in the street to the Compter, for the present, and that the Marine society had promised to provide for them: he therefore recommended it to the court to assist that useful society. A motion was accordingly made, that 500*l.* should be given by the city to the Marine society, which was agreed to; but this business, conformable to a standing order of the court, must go over to the next court for confirmation.

The same day the commissioners and creditors of Mess. Neale, James, Fordyce, and Down, assembled in Guildhall, for the purpose of chusing new assignees. After the lord chancellor's order was read, by which Mess. Cust, Ward and Matthews, were set aside, Mr. Fisher rose up and moved, that those same gentlemen should be rechosen to the trust, which was unanimously carried in the affirmative. After this the following question was agitated, "Whether, or not, the creditors have a right to inspect into books in the hands of the assignees?" which was also decided in the affirmative.

SUNDAY 13.

This day the purser of the Godfrey East-Indiaman, Capt. Reed, came to the India-house with an account of the above ship being safe arrived in the Downs from Bombay. She sailed on her voyage from the Downs the 29th of April, 1773. There are now only two ships more to arrive, the Colebrooke and the Pigott.

MONDAY 14.

The inhabitants of Maidstone, considering the distresses of their poor, have, assisted by Lord Romney and other gentlemen in their neighbourhood, established a fund to supply their poor weekly with the best wheat meal at or under 5*s.* a bushel of 64 pounds.

This day the bill to prohibit the exportation of corn, and to allow the free importation; the bill for the free importation of provisions from Ireland; and the bill to discontinue the duties on the importation of hog's lard and grease, received the royal assent by commission.

TUESDAY 15.

A carpenter in Deptford-yard has invented a machine for measuring a ship's way at sea in any weather. Lord Sandwich has ordered one of them to be tried, and has promised

the man a reward for his ingenuity, if it succeeds.

Since last session thirty-five appeals have been entered before the house of peers, sixteen of which are from Scotland, nine from Ireland, and six from the high court of Chancery.

This day Mr. Sheriff Oliver had a paper delivered to him, Mr. Sheriff Lewes having received the same paper before, (dated King's Arms, Burr-street, Middlesex, Dec. 9, 1772) containing as follows:

"At a meeting of many of the freeholders of the said county, Brads Crosby, Esq. in the chair,

"It was unanimously resolved, that the sheriff of the said county be desired to call a general meeting of the freeholders, to consider the mode of redress of the violated rights of election in this county.

"Resolved, that the chairman do make this request to the said sheriff. Signed by order of the said meeting. Brads Crosby, chairman."

WEDNESDAY 16.

Letters from Brunswick mention, that the Hereditary Prince and Princess of Brunswick purpose to visit this kingdom early in the spring.

This day, at the public office in Bow-street, a woman servant of Mrs. Hughes was committed for trial, she having taken oil and linen rags, and set them on fire, in order to burn her mistress in bed; but it was happily discovered in time by some lodgers in the house, who extinguished the fire.

THURSDAY 17.

This day the sessions ended at the Old Bailey, when sentence of death was passed upon twelve convicts.

Edward Bockett, for being one of the ringleaders in the riot at Guildhall last lord mayor's day, after a trial of four hours, was acquitted.

This day came on in the court of Chancery a final hearing of the lead-mine cause, between Lord Pomfret and Mr. Smith of Gray's-Inn, when the court ordered his lordship's suit to be dismissed with costs.

During the five years the above cause was in agitation, there were three several appeals to the house of lords. The two first were actually heard, and the third withdrawn only a few days ago; besides which there have been two trials at law, one of them at bar, each of which lasted two whole days, and the whole costs of each party are said to amount to little less than 10,000*l.*

FRIDAY 18.

This day the Earl of Egremont coming of age, a grand entertainment was given on the occasion to many of the nobility, at his lordship's house in Piccadilly.

The same day a countryman, meeting two women in Holborn, asked the way to Smith-

field, where he was to lodge that night. They said they were going near the place, and would conduct him to his inn; but they took him down Field lane, up Chick-lane, and got him into a house there, pretending it was a thoroughfare; but, as soon as he had entered it, one seized him by the collar, while the other rifled his pockets of his purse and all his money. One of them was taken the same evening, the other yesterday, and being carried before the sitting alderman at Guildhall, one was committed to the Poultry, the other to Wood-street Compter.

SATURDAY 19.

This day the long-depending cause between the colony of Connecticut and the Mohegan Indians, which has been in a course of litigation upwards of thirty years, was determined in favour of the colony, by the lord's of his majesty's privy council, at the Cockpit, Whitehall.

MONDAY 21.

This day the purser of the Colebrooke East-Indiaman, Capt. Morris, came to the India-house, with an account that the above ship is safe arrived off the Isle of Wight from Coast and Bay.

In answer to the request for a general meeting of the county of Middlesex, signed by Mr. Crosby, and delivered on Tuesday last to Mr. Sheriff Oliver, Mr. Crosby on Wednesday received the following letter:

To BRASS CROSBY, Esq.

"Sir, The flagrant violation of the right of election, committed by the H. of C. in the case of the freeholders of Middlesex, has always induced me to give every assistance in my power towards obtaining redress. I shall always continue the same endeavours, whether as an individual, as a representative in parliament, or as one of the sheriffs of the county.

"I am very willing to call a general meeting of the freeholders for the purpose you mention; and therefore I desire it may be done in that manner, which shall appear most likely to give weight and respect to the measures which may be afterwards taken at such general meeting.

"At present no freeholder's name appears to the application I have received but yours; and however respectable that is, yet I cannot think it alone sufficient either to justify me for calling together so numerous and considerable a county as Middlesex, or to incline the freeholders to assemble.

"The consequence of the collective body of the people seems to be the only hope we have now left for the redress of past, or security from future wrongs; and that may be easily injured and made cheap by recurring to it improperly, and upon every slight application. To do so, usually renders a man popular without risque or trouble; but it does much mischief to the public, and shews

a want either of understanding or principle. Therefore, as one of the sheriffs, before I consent to call a general meeting of the county, I desire to have an application signed by the many freeholders, who were present in the mixed company where you was chairman; or, if you do not think them sufficiently numerous, the fairest way will be to have an open meeting of the freeholders only, to consider of the application.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Fenchurch-street,

RICH. OLIVER.

Dec. 16, 1772.

This day his majesty, attended in his coach by Lord Waldegrave and Lord Robert Bertie, went to the house of peers, and gave the royal assent to the following bills, viz.

The bill for granting an aid to his majesty by land-tax for the service of the ensuing year.

The bill to continue the duties on malt, mum, cyder and perry.

And also to three private bills.

TUESDAY 22.

By a report made it appears, that a great company have now in their warehouses no less than 16,000,000 pounds of tea.

It likewise appears, that the value of the company's estates in the city of London, that is the India-house and the different warehouses, as estimated by a surveyor expressly employed for the purpose, amount to about 214,000l.

WEDNESDAY 23.

In consequence of Mr. Sheriff Oliver's answer to Mr. Crosby's request to call a general meeting of the freeholders of Middlesex, Mr. Sheriff Lewes sent the following letter to Mr. Oliver:

"Sir, Cecil-street, Dec. 19, 1772:

"I have read with surprise the letter to Mr. Alderman Crosby, which I find you ordered to be printed. I am hurt to observe that you seem to evade the request made us, as sheriffs, by a respectable number of freeholders, who directed their chairman, as usual, to sign their resolution. It was delivered to me at the meeting, and ordered to be transmitted to you. I hope you do not mean to create confusion, nor to perplex a business of so much consequence. I see my way clear before me, and I will follow the path of honour and duty. Whatever, Sir, may be your determination, whether to concur or not in the measures, it is my fixed purpose to convene the county soon after the holidays, and to give the freeholders an opportunity, according to their request, of considering the proper mode of redress of their violated right of election. I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

"To Mr. Sheriff Oliver. W. LEWES."

This day, at an adjourned session at the Old Bailey, thirteen prisoners were tried. James

James Harrison was convicted of an assault upon Capt. Crocker, in the riot at Guildhall last lord mayor's day. Ten journeymen carriers were tried for a conspiracy with intent to raise their wages, and were acquitted; as were two others tried for perjury.

This morning, during a great fog, two horses belonging to a dray-cart got loose from their driver in the Hay-market, and running furiously along, beat down two men, and killed them on the spot. One Mr. Wishaw, a taylor in Palsgrave-head court, Temple-Bar, narrowly escaped the same fate. A poor man in the Strand, taking up an old pipe, was run over, and taken up speechless, with little hopes of recovery. The darkness was so great, that the carriages of the nobility and gentry were attended with lights, the same as at midnight; and in the morning, a man decently dressed was found dead near the Three Crowns, at the bottom of Gray's-inn-lane, supposed to have perished through the inclemency of the weather. A gentleman and a lady were overturned in a one-horse chaise, about one o'clock, from not being perceived by the driver of one of the western stages, by which accident the lady had one of her arms broken, and the gentleman's skull was so fractured, that he died before he could be brought to town.

THURSDAY 24.

This day the following bills received the royal assent by commission, viz.

The bill for better regulating his majesty's marine forces.

The bill to allow the free importation of rice from America.

The bill to restrain the East-India company from appointing supervisors, &c. for a limited time.

The bill for making a branch of the river Trent navigable near Newark.

And also to such other bills as were ready.

It appeared by the evidence given at the bar on Friday night last, that the rapacity of some of the company's servants in Bengal alone, for the last six years, made an actual difference in the company's affairs of no less than 3,200,000l.

The remainder of the London articles of intelligence, the lists of promotions, deaths, marriages, &c. to the end of the year, will appear in the APPENDIX.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

Whitehall, Nov. 23.

THE dispatches, which were yesterday received from the island of Antigua, bring more particular circumstances concerning the hurricane on the 31st of August last, which is stated to be more violent and destructive than has ever been known to have happened there in the memory of the oldest person in that island.

By these dispatches it appears, that the wind, which began to blow fresh on the evening of the 30th of August, continued to increase till five in the morning of the next day, when it raged with inconceivable fury and violence.

The damage done to the plantations, and to the houses of the planters, (many of which have been entirely destroyed, and few or none escaped without some marks of desolation) cannot be estimated. Many lives were lost, and a number of families, who abandoned their habitations, and retired to the fields for shelter, were exposed to great misery and distress from the fury of the storm, which continued the whole day, and the situation of the inhabitants in general was rendered more alarming by a scarcity of provisions.

The house, in which his majesty's governor resided, was entirely destroyed, with all his furniture and papers; and the wind having forced its way through the windows and doors of the court-house, the whole interior of that building was torn in pieces, the public records either lost, or so defaced as to become totally useless, and the barracks built for the reception of his majesty's troops have received so much damage as to be uninhabitable.

The effect of this tempest was not less fatal at sea than upon the land. All the trading vessels, which were at Antigua on the day of the hurricane, were destroyed; and his majesty's squadron lying in English harbour, though accounted the safest in the West-Indies, were driven from their anchors, and forced on shore. They have however been since got off, though not without considerable damage; and the naval hospital having been blown down during the continuance of the storm, several persons were killed, and a considerable number wounded and maimed.

There are yet no particular accounts of the damages sustained in the islands of Nevis, St. Christopher, and Montserrat; but there is reason to believe, that the effects of the storm have not been less fatal there than at Antigua, more especially in the island of St. Christopher, where, it is said, thirty ships and other vessels were wrecked, a great part of the town of Basse Terre destroyed, the court-house, which was a new spacious building, razed to its foundation, and the fortress of Brimstone-hill, which is of considerable strength, is reported to have sustained very considerable damage.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Gloucester, Dec. 5.

ALTHOUGH it was nip-tide last Monday was so'nnight, the water flowed so remarkably high in the Severn, that a flock of

of three hundred sheep, which were driven out of the tide's way upon the Tumps near Slimbridge Warth, were all carried off, and every one of them drowned.

St. Edmund's Bury, Dec. 6. The bill for allowing the free importation of corn into this kingdom is likely to produce very happy effects to the poor in this part of the country: the farmers begin to bring out their old stocks. Corn in our market is considerably fallen in price.

The following melancholy affair has happened here: Joseph Beedle and his brother, both woolcombers, going home to breakfast, found that their father, mother, and sister, were not come down stairs, but heard an alarming noise in their chamber, such as might be supposed to come from persons in great pain; on which they went up, and found their mother a lifeless corpse, their father breathing his last, and the sister almost past hopes of recovery. This unhappy circumstance is supposed to have been occasioned by a charcoal fire, which was lighted in a close room, on account of the woman's not being well, the fumes of which, it is imagined, had such an effect, that the poor people were suffocated.

Birmingham, Dec. 7. On Tuesday last two colliers were found dead in a pit of Mr. Aston's, at Tipton. The cause of their death was by their taking some coles down to make a fire, which, it is supposed, as soon as they had done, they drank plentifully of ale, fell asleep, and the sulphur from the fire suffocated them. As no business was perceived going on, a boy was let down to enquire into the cause, when the pit being full of sulphur, he was suffocated; but being soon drawn up, and his head being put under a turf, as is usual on such occasions, he recovered.

Bath, Dec. 14. An address, signed by 163 principal traders and shopkeepers of Bristol, relative to the many hardships they suffer from the unfair practices of hawkers and pedlars, was on Wednesday sent to their members, Lord Clare and Mr. Brickdale, intreating them to endeavour to obtain an act, either totally to suppress the trade of those people, or put it under such regulations as may prevent the evils complained of.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh, Nov. 28.

ON Thursday se'nnight a young man, named M'Gregor, who lived at Partick, lost his life in the river Clyde. He had spent the preceding evening with his sweetheart, and, after conveying her home to Govan, perished in attempting to ford the river near that place, on his return. And on Friday night, as Andrew Yule and his wife were going home from M'Gregor's interment, they missed their way, and perished.

I R E L A N D.

Dublin Castle, Nov. 30.

ON Saturday last the Earl of Harcourt embarked at Holyhead, arrived safe in this port very early this morning, and immediately upon his landing proceeded to the castle. The council having been summoned to meet at two o'clock, his lordship was introduced in form to Lord Townshend, who received him sitting, under the canopy of state, in the presence chamber, from whence a procession was made to the council chamber; where his lordship's commission was read, and the oaths administered to him; after which, his lordship having received the sword from Lord Townshend, the great guns in his majesty's park the Phœnix were fired, and answered by the regiments on duty, which were drawn up in the royal square at the barracks: his excellency then repaired to the presence chamber, where he received the compliment of the nobility and other persons of distinction, upon his safe arrival to take upon him the government of this kingdom.

Kilkenny, Dec. 12. The White Boys have begun their usual associations and excursions. On Monday night last a party of those rioters, to the number of about 100, covered with white shirts, and mounted on their neighbours horses, which they rode almost to death, went to the houses of David Whelan and John Mullally, near Garricken, on the estate of Walter Butler, Esq. and after breaking open their houses, they mounted them on horseback, and carried them upwards of four miles from their houses; then tied the said Whelan and Mullally to a tree, administering them several oaths, that they should quit their present farms, &c. or their cattle would be houghed, with many other dreadful menaces.

A M E R I C A.

Extract of a Letter from Surinam, dated Sept. 5, 1772.

GREAT is the distress of this colony, occasioned by an insurrection of the slaves; they are assembled 1000 strong, very formidable, supplied with arms and ammunition, and have defeated our soldiers, and taken some six-pounders from them, with which they have fortified themselves on an island, committing great depredations, and annoying the inhabitants daily. We have made several ineffectual attempts to subdue them; and about three months ago they defeated our escort sent against them. I happened to be at a plantation where one of their parties, 50 in number, came and carried off about 80 negroes, and all the guns and ammunition furnished to guard it. We have been obliged to set three or four hundred of our stoutest negroes free, to defend us.

FOREIGN

RUSSIA.

Petersburgh, Nov. 23.

A Treaty is just signed with the Tartars of Crimea, by which they renounce the government of the Ottoman Porte, and put themselves under the protection of the Russian Empire, yielding to us the two fortresses of Jenicala and Kertsch, with the territories belonging to them. In return the empress surrenders to them the rest of Crimea, with all the places and fortresses conquered by her troops without exception, upon condition that no Turkish garrison shall ever be placed in them for the future. Thus the affairs of Crimea are at length settled, and it is imagined the Porte will no longer persist in obstructing the peace on account of her pretensions to that country.

PRUSSIA.

Berlin, Nov. 21. The court has received the agreeable news that the consort of Prince Augustus Ferdinand of Prussia was happily brought to bed of a prince the 18th instant at Fredericksfelde.

DENMARK.

Copenhagen, Nov. 17. By an ordinance just published, his majesty, willing to conciliate the affections of his subjects in the kingdom of Norway, has converted the extraordinary imposts on that country into that of a free gift, for the term of six years.

SWEDEN.

Stockholm, Dec. 1. The governors and commandants of the places upon the frontiers of Sweden and Norway have reciprocally assured each other, by order of their respective courts, that the most perfect harmony subsists between them, and that no hostilities were to be apprehended on either side.

POLAND.

Warsaw, Nov. 28. The Russians seem as if they intended to keep their new acquisitions in Poland; they treat the inhabitants very kindly. The nobles estates pay no contribution, and the gentlemen are subject to no capitation tax, provided they prove their nobility and their right to the estate they possess. The citizens pay an annual poll-tax of one rouble and a quarter each. The farmers contribute the same taxes they used to pay, and are permitted to sell their corn where they please. There will be a tax on liquors, and those who pay it may brew and distil for themselves. The ecclesiasticks are obliged to give an account of their foundations, and the number of religious in each convent. The nobility and the towns are under the same jurisdiction they were. They have ceased to demand forage and provision, but the neighbouring Polish provinces pay double what they did before.

From the Frontiers of Poland, Dec. 2. By some authentick letters we are assured, that a certain power hath caused a declaration to be made to the court of Warsaw, that if the republick of Poland do not immediately determine to acknowledge the claims of those of Vienna, Berlin, and Petersbourg, on the provinces of this kingdom of which they have taken possession, some further claims on Poland will soon be declared.

Warsaw, Dec. 2. It is believed, that the absent senators who had partaken in the troubles of this kingdom, will renounce their engagements and return here to expedite the work of peace, and satisfy the pretensions of the neighbouring powers: in the mean time, Baron de Stackelberg, the minister from Russia, hath formally declared to the king, that in such case they shall all enjoy, without exception, entire security.

GERMANY.

Vienna, Nov. 11. We are informed that the armistice is prolonged to the beginning of April, and that M. Obrescow is appointed sole ambassador on the part of Russia, to treat with the Grand Vizir's Reis Effendi at the new congress which is opened at Bucharest.

Vienna, Nov. 18. The prince de Rohan, ambassador from France, had an audience of the emperor and the empress queen a few days ago, when he declared to their imperial majesties, on the part of the king his master, that in case Sweden should be attacked by any power, France would assist her with all her forces.

Our advices from Bohemia are truly melancholy, the mortality having broke out again there, not only among the horned cattle but among the horses.

Hamburg, Dec. 5. The following anecdote is in all our publick papers. The king of Prussia said to Baron Van Swieten, the royal imperial ambassador at the court of Berlin, when he took his leave of his majesty before setting out on a journey for some months to Vienna, "Tell the empress queen that she need not be uneasy with respect to the resistance of the Poles, regarding her part of that kingdom, for there are 100,000 men, with myself at their head, at her service."

TURKEY.

Constantinople, Oct. 27. The ministers from Vienna and Berlin arrived here the 3d and 4th of this month; and Osman Effendi, our plenipotentiary at the late conference, arrived the week following. Advices are received from the camp of the grand vizir, that the plagues has broke out in our army, which makes great ravages.

ADVER.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Proprietors of the LONDON MAGAZINE respectfully greet their readers with the compliments of the season; and inform them, that they intend to establish the LONDON MAGAZINE upon a plan superior to other publications of the same kind. As there is no Magazine which circulates in so various a sphere, so there is none which comprehends so extensive a variety. Here the Belles Lettres are continually respected; the important department of Politics is regarded with particular attention; and here Theology appears united with Philosophy. The Arts, Sciences, and Manners, shall be marked in all their improvements, in all their refinements; the Grave shall contend with the Gay, and the Useful with the Agreeable: for it is fitting that the work which is perused by every degree of mankind should be adapted to the taste and studies of every degree. These are considerations which seem to have escaped the attention and practice of the makers of modern Magazines; and as we are sensible of this error, no doubt we shall endeavour to avoid it.

A printed paper has been transmitted to the Editor of the London Magazine, subscribed "F. Noble, J. Noble," replete with those barbarous expressions familiar to men, whose business it is to puzzle heads and to corrupt hearts. The Editor is certainly a man of honour; and he will be ready to give the most convincing proofs of this to the Nobles when they shall please to enquire for them. Guided by this honour, he condemned their books; which also he would vindicate, were not those books now overwhelmed in the oblivion to which he consigned them. The Editor overlooks those aspersions which the Nobles have applied to him, because he believes they are not accustomed to talk otherwise: Scandal is the property of mean and illiberal minds, and the Circulating Library is its Palace. But he cannot suppress his inclination to inform them, that an Act of Parliament is soon to be passed, by which Circulating Libraries are to be suppressed, and by which the Owners of them are to be declared, like the Players, "Rogues and Vagabonds," the debauchers of Morals, and the pest of Society. Till this useful Act shall be passed into a law, the Editor of the London Magazine will acquire great pleasure by praising the good, and by censuring the bad, Novels of F. and J. Noble.

TO our CORRESPONDENTS.

WE would have willingly inserted the letter of Irenæus, were it not so liable to the objection which he judiciously seems to have been aware of.

Candidus will observe in our last, that we have dismissed every species of polemic divinity, which does not tend, in some degree, to the improvement or happiness of mankind.

The verses sent by J. N. P. are too incorrect for the eye of the public. Did ever the author bear of a wreath gracing a name?

The vindication of the Quakers by W. A. is not correspondent with our plan.

A. M. need not suspect our partiality. We always retain the liberty of thinking twice upon one subject --- a liberty necessary to men who are involved in a multiplicity of business. We cannot comply with A. M.'s request, because in the moment a letter is judged improper for publication, it is destroyed. As to his threats, we excuse them.

Another letter subscribed A. M. was received upon the same subject.

The arithmetical question, to which N. T. Bampton has sent an answer, was solved in our Magazine for October, p. 492.

We cannot approve of the proposals relative to the French compositions, sent by Timothy Tipler; and his Enigma is so very plain, that there is no mystery in it.

We are obliged to A Constant Reader for his hint.

In our Magazine for January will be given, the first part of the History of the present Session of Parliament. — Also Harlequin, No. 1. — Also No. III. of Original Characters. — Also, The School of Love, a new work. With divers other original papers.



A P P E N D I X

TO THE

LONDON MAGAZINE, MDCCLXXII.



DEBATES OF A POLITICAL CLUB.

(The Debates of the last Session of Parliament concluded from Page 568 of our last.)



IN consequence of the apprehensions of dangers occasioned by the explosion of the Powder-mills at Hounslow, a bill was brought in, by which a discretionary power was given to the Quarter-sessions of determining whether any place, pitched upon by a Powder-manufacturer, for the erection of a mill, is proper or safe; a power of appeal to the King's-bench from their decision being left to the rejected petitioners.

For the greater security to the public, the use of iron pestles in powder-mills was in this act prohibited: a provision which made one Hill apply for an indemnification of fifteen hundred pounds, for the loss which he would thence sustain. Parliament being in general very tender of injuring private property by an act, readily granted this request made by his counsel Mr. Lee. At the same time Serjeant Price was heard at the bar in behalf of Pigeon and company; and it appeared by witnesses, that there was no danger to be apprehended from the blowing up of the mills by any but the people employed in them, or by those who were extremely near them; that indeed the mills would occasionally blow up in spite of every precaution; but that, if no great quantity of powder was lodged in them, they could do but

little harm; that in general little powder was lodged in them; that the damage and fright occasioned by the terrible explosion at Hounslow proceeded from the fire's being communicated to eight hundred barrels of granulated powder; that, notwithstanding all this, a house not many yards distant from the scene of the explosion had not been in the least hurt; that during the explosion, one of the witnesses was in it, and received no harm; and that his family fared as well.

In consequence of these last assertions, G. Onslow pretended that the testimony of such a man was incredible; as a house of his at Guildford, twenty miles off, had been considerably damaged. In order to destroy the effect of this imputation, Mr. Dempster declared, that a fortnight after the explosion, he had been in the house in question, and that there were no visible marks of injury to be found. He argued strongly against the bill in the following manner:

Sir, as I think the public much interested in this bill, I am called upon as a member of parliament, that is willing to discharge his duty, to oppose that clause of the bill which gives the Justices of Peace a discretionary power of suffering, or not suffering, a powder-mill to be erected. My reason is, that I think this regulation will absolutely prevent the building of such mills for the future. The ap-

prehensions

prehenensions of danger are so strong in gentlemen's minds since the late accident at Hounslow, that they will not listen to any proposal of building so dangerous a machine in their neighbourhood. Do you desire a proof? Mr. Onslow will furnish you with one. He would, I suppose, have the mills at Hounslow removed for fear of endangering a house of his at the distance of twenty miles. Sir, the fears of men are absolutely chimerical. If there be no considerable quantity of dried granulated powder in or near the mill, there is no danger, as I think has been proved by undeniable witnesses; and here it is provided that for the future very little shall be kept in such a situation. For what purpose then is the bill to pass? Not certainly to secure the public; for it is in no danger; and, if it was, the act, which provides that no powder mills shall for the future be erected within three miles of London, a mile and a half of a market town, and half a mile of a church, is a sufficient security. But I talk in vain. The loudness of the explosion at Hounslow has had such an effect upon the ears even of this House that they can hear nothing. Instead of listening to argument, my opponents are counting the house. But where is the wonder? Things are now come to such a pass that, instead of exhausting our lungs in argumentation, we had better give a silent vote. Were it not so, would gentlemen be inattentive to an object of such magnitude. Sir, individuals alone are not concerned in this affair. The publick is materially interested. For who, I beseech you, are the consumers of powder? The government. If you lay it then under any unnecessary restraints, will not government be the sufferer? The price of that commodity will rise, and there will be no quantity to enforce the demand. What will be the consequence? We shall be absolutely without defence in time of war; for without powder the rest of our arms are worth nothing. Consider that with all the liberty formerly granted for erecting mills, not more than one half, often not more than one third of the powder requisite was produced in the island. What will be our situation, if this bill pass? since the days of King William powder

has risen from 15s. to 25s. per barrel. Does not increase of price satisfy you? Must you raise it still higher to gratify the avarice of a few old manufacturers, who would monopolize the whole trade? They are the men who eagerly support this bill; because they see that it will have this effect. Sir, when I say that no more powder-mills will be erected, if this bill pass, I do not speak from conjecture. I form this opinion from past experience. A powder manufacturer, relying upon the act passed last year, found in Kent a spot answering to the description in that act, and petitioned the quarter-sessions at Maidstone for leave to build a mill upon it: but in defiance of the act they assumed a discretionary power of refusing it. What has been may be; and it is never safe to leave unlimited power in the hands of any man, or class of men. The remedy here pointed out of appealing to the King's Bench is so expensive, that people of small fortune will not choose to run the gauntlet of your courts of justice, and spend at law that money by which they mean to raise a subsistence for their family. A right honourable gentleman (*meaning General Conway*) is satisfied that this bill will be attended with bad consequences; but he will not now oppose it; because he has nothing better than the last year's bill to substitute in its place. Sir, nothing better can be substituted with a little alteration; for it gives the public sufficient security. I have revolved the matter in my mind, and I have consulted other persons who ought to know something of the matter: but I do not find it possible to come to any determinate conclusion, or to pitch upon any medium more safe than that which was struck in last year's bill, if you take away the discretionary power given to the quarter sessions. For this reason I oppose the clause relating to the quarter-sessions in this bill; and, if it be removed, the two bills are in fact the same.

The motion for the bill to pass was rejected.

June 3. This was the last day of the session on which the House did any business. Mr. T. Townshend mentioned the proposed bill relative to private mad-houses. He observed, that,

that, as the bill for the regulation of private mad-houses was not according to promise brought into the House, he now gave public notice, that, if the original proposer or his abettors did not proceed in that business, he would himself take an early opportunity next session to move for an enquiry into the state of these places, as a previous step to a proper act for their regulation. Constantine Phipps said, that the scheme was not dropped but postponed till next year, when it would be more ripe for execution. Richard Whitworth said, that, when a noble law Lord was consulted about the matter, he had declared it was *law* already; which words he did not understand.

Mr. Dempster said, that he understood Mr. Bankes and Dr. Solander had declined making a second voyage to the South Seas, for want of necessary accommodations; that, for the sake of the public, and of the East-India Company, as well as for the sake of philosophy, which were all interested in the project, he was sorry the project had been dropt; that four thousand pounds had been granted to Dr. Lind, and others, for discoveries; that he thought that money very properly laid out; that, from the same motives, he wished that the Parliament would not suffer so beneficial a plan to be laid aside for want of proper assistance; as, in a time of profound peace, part of the navy could not be better employed, and as the expence could be no object to so great a nation. No answer was given by the ministry.

The corn-bill being returned by the Lords with amendments, and particularly with this amendment, *that no bounty should be paid upon exported corn*, Governor Pownall said, that though the alterations were trifling, and chiefly grammatical, yet he thought them, upon the whole, real improvements, and therefore would have made no objection to them, had not one been a flagrant encroachment upon the privileges of the house; that as the Lords, forgetful of their duty, had interfered in raising money by inserting the words, "that no bounty should be paid upon exported corn", he must move the house to reject the bill. Richard Whitworth said, that though desirous of a good understanding be-

tween the two houses, he must second the motion, as the amendment violated a privilege which had always belonged, and he hoped always should belong, to that house.

It was then urged by other gentlemen, that no good understanding did subsist between the two houses, and that therefore they ought the more to resent this affront and injury. The speaker upon this declared, that he would do his part in the business, and toss the bill over the table.

Mr. Edmund Burke said,

Mr. Speaker, I wish that there was not only a good understanding *between* the two houses, but I also wish that there was a good understanding *in* one of them; and I wish both for the same reason, for the better dispatch of the public business. Sir, when there is not an easy intercourse between the two houses, when their doors are shut upon the members of each other, it is impossible to impart those mutual lights which are frequently necessary in the progress of a bill. For want of this communication and this knowledge, I aver that three bills were lately lost in that house, and among them this corn bill and the Dissenters bill. The Lords do not know what is going forward in this House; and, what is worse, they do not understand the principles of the constitution. Sir, this privilege, which they have now invaded, is a known and avowed right inherent in this House as the representatives of the people. For what do the Lords say, when they attempt to invade this privilege? Why, Sir, they plainly say to us and to the people, you shall no longer tax yourselves. Can liberty exist a moment, if we allow them to lay their sacrilegious hands upon this holy of holies, this palladium of the constitution? The most servile tool of administration will not have the face to defend this encroachment. What shall we say was the cause of this strange proceeding? Shall we call it absolute ignorance of the constitution, or an insidious trial of our ductility and acquiescence? I have seen enough of their conduct to make me think the former not impossible; and I know too much the sympathy subsisting between them and administration to deem the latter improbable. Suppose then we compound the matter, and ascribe

ascribe this attempt partly to ignorance of the constitution, partly to ministerial management. In so doing I believe we shall not be much wide of the mark. Among the various attempts made by administration to overturn the constitution, that of taking from the people the power of taxing themselves would not be the least. The right of election being violated, there remained but this, for which the right of election was originally preserved by the people. I hope, however, we are not yet so infamous and abandoned as to relinquish this essential point. It is not that I mean to make the breach between the houses wider; I have already endeavoured to shew, that, for the sake of the public, we should study harmony and unanimity. Nor is it my desire that we should return injury for injury. If we have received a base affront from the Lords, let us not copy their example, but set them a pattern of what their conduct ought to be. There is in the reciprocation of base affronts something that makes a liberal mind revolt. Who does not think himself degraded by turning upon a Wapping landlady, and giving her reproach for reproach? You cannot have any pleasure in kicking and being kicked. Let us not then imitate so shameful an example, but leave our doors open *even* for the peerage. I do not say that they have deserved this at our hands: They have not: but let us forgive their weakness as a prelude to a reconciliation, and to the renewal of the old and regular manner of transacting business, an effort for the recovery of which we owe to our constituents, and to our own dignity. But why do I talk of *our* dignity? That is lost. I only contend for this point, as a necessary preparative to the proper management of the public business. Had gentlemen any feeling for the honour of the House, would they submit to the disgrace of waiting three hours in the lobby of the House of Lords, among their lordships footmen? Sir, this has been my fate, when ordered by the House to carry their bills to the Lords; and I do not speak of it out of any personal pride, or as an indignity to myself, but as a flagrant disgrace to this House, which I apprehend is not inferior in rank to

any other branch of the legislature. On the contrary I hold that they are coordinate, and that none is to claim a superiority. If therefore the Lords keep their house shut for fear of being exposed or disgraced by the publication of their speeches or opinions, or for any other cause, it will be necessary for this House, in support of its own dignity, to appoint particular officers for carrying bills to the Upper House. Should they oblige us to sacrifice the public interest, we are under no necessity of sacrificing farther than we have our importance in the state. Though they frequently alter bills merely to shew their power, we need not suffer them to proceed to the annihilation of all our authority.

Mr. Ongley said, that if the Lords, when informed of what now passed, did not act with more discretion, and restore things to their ancient footing, it would be no improper object of consideration next session, whether the members of either house had not a right, an ancient and constitutional right, to be present at the deliberations of the other; that to him the relation of the two houses seemed analogous to the relation between either house and a committee of its own members; that, though none but the members of the committee had a vote, yet every other member had, for the sake of information, and of forwarding the service of the public, a right to be present.

The bill was rejected *nem. con.* and the Speaker tossed it over the table. Several of the members on both sides of the question kicked it as they went out.

On June 9 his Majesty went to the House of Peers, and put an end to the session by the following speech:

"My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I Cannot put an end to this session of parliament, without expressing the satisfaction I have felt in observing the temper, and the prudence, which have governed all your deliberations during the course of it, and without returning you my particular thanks for the fresh proof you have given of your affectionate attachment to me, in the additional security you have provided for the welfare and honour of my family.

I can with great pleasure acquaint you,

you, that the dispositions of the powers of Europe give me the strongest reason to believe, that this nation will not be disturbed in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you heartily for the supplies, which you have granted with so much cheerfulness and dispatch, and for the ample provision you have made for every branch of the public service: And I see with pleasure and approbation, that you have at the same time been able, by a proper disposition of the public money, to make a further progress in reducing the national debt.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I make no doubt but that you will carry into your respective counties the same principles, and the same zeal for the public good, which I have experienced from you in parliament; and that you will continue to exert your best endeavours to cultivate and improve a spirit of harmony and confidence amongst all ranks of my faithful subjects: Let it be your constant care to convince them, that, without a due reverence for the laws, and a cheerful obedience to just authority, neither their civil nor religious rights and liberties can be enjoyed in comfort or security; and to assure them, that I consider their interests as inseparably connected with my own, and that I am, and have ever been persuaded, that the prosperity and glory of my reign must depend on my possessing the affection, and maintaining the happiness, of my people."

The parliament was prorogued to the 11th of August following.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

Humorous Remarks relative to the East India Company.

AT a time when the nation in general is occupied in discussing East India affairs; when they are become the subject of parliamentary enquiry; and when individuals in every corner of the country, attracted by the prevailing avidity for wealth, at least the attention which it excites, are eager to peruse any thing that can give the least information upon the subject; a correspondent of the *London Magazine* thinks it may not

be amiss to relieve a little the intenseness of thinking, by throwing together any pleasant stories, entertaining remarks, or witty conceits, which he has either picked up from others, or which his own fancy when in a playful mood has suggested, with regard to that wonderful oriental empire, which this little island called Great Britain has by means of its skill and navigation, and other arts not so innocent, been able to appropriate to itself.

The late *Charles Townsend*, whose unpremeditated sallies of vivacity were ready upon every occasion, was one day in the House of Commons; where a very tedious harangue was made by *Sir George Colebrooke*, the chairman of the East India company. Every body was tired enough; but the quickness of *Charles's* temper made him remarkably impatient. The moment *Sir George* had finished his speech, *Charles* got up and broke in thus; "Mr. Speaker, we have heard a great deal from this lineal successor of *Alexander the Great*." The contrast between the superb name of the conqueror of the world and the diminutive priggish figure of *Colebrooke* was excessively ridiculous, and set the whole house in a roar.

The directors having chosen a number of themselves to go out as supervisors; and this choice being to be submitted to the proprietors at large, a merry wag proposed, that in imitation of the directors, the proprietors should vote for themselves; but carry on the plan in a most liberal and extensive manner, by investing every one of their number with the office of supervisor, so that they might ALL set sail together for the rich plains of India; where all of them might be sovereign princes of extensive territories: observing, that it would puzzle modern politicians and masters of public law, by what species of government to distinguish this COMMON-WEALTH OF KINGS.

A certain distinguished adventurer in the *Alley* was at a particular time expressing very high ideas of India stock; Mr. Dempster had somewhat a different opinion, and signified his doubts; which made this gentleman tell him, that he was quite a desponding brother, quite a *Croaker*. Mr. Dempster

Dempster answered, "but not an *Alley* "*Croaker*."

At the last exhibition of the royal academy in *London*, there was an emblematical picture of the noble charity for wounded soldiers established by Lord Clive in India. This establishment does great honour to his life, and the subject had a fine effect in painting. However, a certain member of parliament, of distinguished pleasantries, and whose conversation abounds with lively sayings, being in a company not a mile from Arlington-street, where great encomiums were passing upon the subject of the picture; observed with a significant turn, "I am afraid that affair will not bear *to be canvassed*." This gentleman perhaps viewed the matter with too much *shade*, because at the last general election, it is believed, he was opposed in his *canvass* by Lord Clive.

I am always fond of hearing Mr. Dempster speak in the India-house. Many of the speakers there give us *bons mots*, but one can often perceive that they are studied, and that they are as precisely fixed to be introduced at certain places, as the starts and springs of some mechanical players, whom we have seen on the stage: whereas Mr. Dempster's genuine vivacity breaks out spontaneously, and without any order at different places of his discourse, as natural and vigorous springs burst from the earth. I like those sparks of fire, which are struck out from the flints of good hard arguments, by the mere steel of collision: but cannot bear to see people artificially introducing lighted matches, or setting off squibs which they have brought with them on purpose.

[To be continued.]

Some OBSERVATIONS on the PRESENT SITUATION of our COMMONS, FORESTS, WASTES, CHACES, &c. and the PUBLIC UTILITY which the CULTIVATION of them would be productive of, demonstrated.

[From a *View of Real Grievances, with Remedies for redressing them*, just published.]

IF our forests, chaces, wastes, commons, &c. that lie uncultivated, and consequently are of little or no benefit to the government, or to the community, were inclosed and leased out in small farms, and at a very moderate rent, to honest and deserving, though poor families, the necessaries of life would be much cheaper, and population would be * increased.

Walter Mapes, who was a judicious writer in the 11th century, has transmitted to posterity a just censure upon the conduct of William the Conqueror, who destroyed so many towns, villages and churches, turning the poor inhabitants adrift, and converting the country, for more than 30 miles in circumference, into what is now called New-Forest. "He took away much land from God and man, and converted it to the use of wild beasts and the sport of his dogs, by which he demolished 36 mother churches, and drove away the poor inhabitants."

Templa admit divis, fora civibus, arva colonis.

We live in a more enlightened age, but yet not without many remains of ancient barbarism and ferocity.

Will not the faith of posterity be blended with some degrees of doubt, concerning the improvements of which we boast in the arts and sciences, when they read in Dr. Davenant, who wrote about 70 years ago, that out of 40,000,000 of acres of land, at which he laid the whole kingdom, our forests, chaces, heaths, highways, commons, and waste grounds, still consisted of 16,000,000 of acres?

If we suppose the highways and lands since inclosed to make up half that number of acres, there still remain 8,000,000 of acres, in a wild uncultivated state.

Frederic William, the second King of Prussia, formed a project of this kind, and had the happiness to put it in execution. His country was a vast desert. He laid out only twelve millions

* Our forests are in number 69—some of them very extensive and fertile. Some make the ground afforested, in New-Forest in Hampshire, not less than 50 miles in circumference. Our chaces are 13, our parks above 700, our commons, hills and mountains, are without number.

— "Soon may
"Laughing Ceres resume the plain."

lions of florins in cultivating the land, building villages, and peopling them. He brought families from Suabia and Franconia: thither he drew emigrants from Saltzburgh; furnished all of them with travelling expences and the means of subsistence. He formed a new state, he created a new power. Europe has felt the weight of it. Who would not profit from this example? It would amazingly increase the finances, the value of lands, circulation and public credit.

What Frederic did in his European provinces, the English have done in many settlements in America. The advantages resulting from them to Britain are very important.

‘But it seems very strange to consider the peopling and cultivation of our colonies as a national concern, and at the same time to permit large forests, commons and open fields, in the mother-country, to remain in pretty much the same condition as when agriculture and commerce were not half so well understood, or of half the consequence they are at present, &c.’ *

To divide the 8,000,000 of acres which have been mentioned into small farms, of 40 acres, would be of incredible utility to the public.

They should be † leased to industrious married people, who have deserved well by their servitude and sobriety, not at more than 3s. an acre, besides the payment of 4l. per. cent. by way of interest, for the money laid out in building and keeping in repair their respective houses. This distribution of lands that lie neglected would produce an amazing change in the conduct of the common people, and be a means of furnishing us with provisions in greater plenty, and upon cheaper terms, to say nothing of the rents, which would amount to amazing sums annually. This would create and cherish a spirit of industry, and render them a diffusive blessing to society.

By the industry of the occupiers, these little farms would be comfortable, useful places, and as desirable nurseries for both people and stock,

App. 1772.

for labour and plenty, as man’s heart can wish.

Though I could prove from better arguments, in my humble opinion, than any I have hitherto seen in print, that the inclosing of commons is of great benefit to the kingdom, yet it is equally true, that the rights, properties and privileges of the poor have been, in some places, grossly invaded in the division of commons.

But their rights should be by all means preserved inviolable; and it may be done without interrupting the great work of inclosing commons.

Common rights, though sometimes acquired by custom, or usage, which presumes a grant, were in general grants from the lords, and originally instituted for the benefit of the poor.

To pull down houses therefore possessed of such common right, is acting contrary to the benevolent intentions of the munificent donors. It is also a great detriment to the community, because they have a tendency, while kept up, to promote population, and many other essential benefits to society.

Honest laborious married people might, by way of reward for their faithful services, be put in the possession of a cottage and an adequate number of acres in lieu of common right. And those little habitations should descend as such to their sons respectively, who shall appear to be the most remarkable for their diligence and fidelity, so long as they continue day-labourers.

And, if they have no male issue, to one of their daughters, as a portion to any labouring man of honest fame, who should chuse, with her free consent, to marry her.

Our want of timber for the Navy is great and alarming. We are supplied principally with timber from Dantzick, Stettin, and Holland. What is shipped at Stettin comes from Silesia, and is contracted for of one Mr. Grieve, as agent for the king of Prussia. But all of it is very indifferent, and much inferior to our English oak, of which we have very little now in the dock-yards,

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* *Reflections on the advantages of draining, inclosing, &c. by Mr. Pinington.*

† “The French, in order to raise a farther revenue to the Crown, besides the suppression of the Farmers-General and the Officers of Grand Masters of their Forests, &c. which will make a prodigious saving, have likewise a project in agitation for letting out the forests themselves, upon a lease of 99 years.” Dec. 16, 1769.

yards, it being very scarce in the kingdom.

None of the foreign wood, received in our yards, is equal to the worst English oak.

Sully, the able and upright minister of Henry the IVth of France, with great difficulty procured an edict, obliging the inhabitants of every district in France to set three acorns, with a proper fence to guard them from the cattle, in every cross-way of their respective districts through that large kingdom. Most of the powerful navy commanded, many years after, by the great Tourville, was built of the timber produced from those acorns. I should imagine that our ministry would do a very acceptable service to the publick, by bringing in a bill for planting part of our forests, chaces, commons, &c.

In a commercial kingdom like ours, enriched by such an extensive navigation, it behoves the government to take care, by the means of rewards and penalties, that fresh successions of timber may be raised for the sake of posterity. For we much want what the Roman poet describes,

*"Sylvæ frequens trabibus, quam nulla
"ceciderat ætas."*

Relative to this purpose there is a passage in Xenophon, that well deserves to be taken notice of: "If the Athenians, says he, had inhabited an island, and, in addition to this, had enjoyed the empire of the sea, they would have been able, as long as they possessed such advantages, to have annoyed others, without being reciprocally annoyed by them." *

We leave the reader to judge how far this prophecy may be verified in regard to England.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

A very SINGULAR CHARACTER.

MR. Servin was so lively, that nothing could escape his pene-

tration; his apprehension was so quick, that he understood every thing in an instant; and his memory so prodigious, that he never forgot any thing. He was master of all the branches of philosophy, and the mathematics, particularly fortification and designing. Nay, he was so thoroughly acquainted with theology, that he was an excellent preacher, when he pleased, and could manage the controversy for, or against, the Protestant interest with the greatest ability. He not only understood the Greek, Hebrew and other learned languages, but all the jargons of the moderns. He entered so exactly into their accent and pronunciation, to which he joined such a perfect imitation of their air and manners, that not only the people of the different nations of Europe, but of the several provinces of France, would have taken him for a native of the country. He applied this talent to imitate all sorts of persons, which he performed with wonderful dexterity; and was accordingly the best comedian in the world. He was a good poet, an excellent musician, and sung with equal art and sweetness. He said mass; for he would do every thing, as well as know every thing. His body was perfectly proportioned to his mind. He was well made, vigorous, and agile, formed for all sorts of exercises. He rode a horse well, and was admired for dancing, leaping, and wrestling. He was acquainted with all kinds of sports and diversions, and could practice in most of the mechanical arts. But let us reverse the medal. He was a liar, false, treacherous, cruel, and cowardly, a sharper, drunkard, and glutton. He was a gamester, an abandoned debauchee, a blasphemer and atheist. In a word, he was possessed of every vice, contrary to honour, to religion, and society: he persisted in his vices to the last, and fell a sacrifice to his debaucheries, in the flower of his age. He died in a public stew, holding the glass in his hand, swearing, and denying God.

* Xenophon de Repub. Vid. the ingenious Mr. Harte, p. 102.

He gives a long and interesting account of foreign trees and plants, which he apprehends would thrive in Great Britain; such as the arkenousli of Switserland, the indigo and sassafras plants, the wax tree, vines, the larch tree, and the rope-ofer of America. Vid. Hart. 102.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

Part of a Dialogue between an Elderly Lady and a Young Gentleman.

THE beginning of the conversation was heard very imperfectly. Thus much only could be collected from it, that one of the speakers was a young man lately commenced bachelor of arts at Cambridge, and the other an ancient gentlewoman of good reputation in the world, of a fortune moderately large, though greatly impaired by *Henry* the first head of the family, but of a broken, declining constitution.

Y. Gentleman. I am persuaded, madam, that if instead of forcing these 39 pills down the throats of all your servants, before they are admitted into your family, you would take some physic yourself, you would immediately grow better, and find a wonderful improvement in your constitution. You have a most excellent book in your keeping, written many hundred years before you was in being, which I am confident will afford much better prescriptions for you and your family than all the doses of physic which you can contrive. For though it was written so long ago, and has undergone many severe examinations, yet no objection that I know of was ever made to it, which has not been fully and satisfactorily answered. It is indeed universally allowed by the ablest of the faculty, and by all others who have considered it attentively, to be by far the best dispensatory that was ever published to the world.

O. Lady. My dispensatory is undoubtedly incomparable; but I am convinced, that unless my servants took these 39 pills of my prescribing, before they entered my doors, there would be such jangling and quarrelling among them, that there would be no living in the house with them: for I must take leave to tell you, young gentleman, that these pills have a wonderful soothing quality, especially among my upper servants, who are to keep the rest in order, a surprising faculty of disposing people to uniformity, and of preventing diversity of opinions; and peace you know in any family cannot be purchased at too

dear a rate. It is, if you will allow the comparison, a pill fairly worth the 39.—And now, Sir, I have acquainted you with the good effects of my prescriptions, I desire to be informed what exceptions you can make to them.

Y. Gentleman. Why, madam, to tell you the truth, I have heard that these same pills of yours are so nauseous, and disagreeable, that many of your servants find a great difficulty in swallowing them, and when they have got them down with straining hard, they feel them sit very uneasy on their stomachs ever afterwards. Some indeed have had the courage to throw them up again, but their number is very inconsiderable, as they are sure to be turned immediately out of your house, and be left either to beg or starve, which you must allow is a trial rather too severe for human nature frequently to undergo. I would not however be understood to imply, that these pills are taken with the same reluctance by all sorts of persons: for they who are perpetually strengthening their nerves by field-diversions, however they may weary their bodies by laborious exercises, seldom fatigue their minds by deep reflections; these persons are generally observed to have a strong digestion, and to swallow your pills without much difficulty: But as for those who sit poring within doors, and are continually peeping into the good old book I mentioned above, their stomachs are so weak, and they are so full of fears, that they look upon some of your pills as little better than poison; and tho' they took them, when they were at first admitted, before they had well considered of what ingredients they were composed, yet they would be glad to be excused from taking them again, which however they are obliged to do, as often as they get a remove in your family, all except the 26 upper servants, who have the government of your house, and who for this reason, as their station is more important, should, one would think, be under stronger obligations to take these pills, if indeed there was any obligation, in the nature of the thing, to take them at all.—For my own part, I cannot perceive the necessity nor even the expediency

diency of this practice ; for since you do not lock up your dispensatory in your closet, as your elder sister does, but leave it open for the inspection of all your servants, this, in my humble opinion, with the assistance of some persons to administer the medicines there prescribed, would be sufficient to keep your family in good order, without the use of these 39 pills.—As to that soothing narcotic quality in them, which you describe as disposing people to uniformity of sentiment, I can perceive nothing of it from the effects which they produce : for it is well known, that notwithstanding your administering them so punctually, several of your servants, the 26 upper ones not excepted, have, both in their writings and conversation, held opinions very different, and contradictory to one another. It is evident therefore that these pills are far from having their desired effect, and from preventing that diversity of opinions for which they were originally intended.—If there is any harm in this diversity, which I think there is not, fire and faggot seem the most effectual method to put a stop to it ; tho' I question, from the experiments made by your elder sister, whether even this would succeed any further than to produce an outward conformity, not an inward sincere agreement of sentiments. How can you imagine, that your servants should not differ in opinion as well as other people ? Provided they refrain from blows, let them dispute as long as they please : no harm will happen : on the contrary, the truth will by this means be more likely to appear. For where there is no diversity of sentiments, there will be no inquiry ; and where there is no inquiry, there will be no rational conviction.

O. Lady. I am surpris'd you can approve of my dispensatory, and find fault with my pills ; because the one is compos'd in exact conformity to the other : and as to the hardship of taking them, that in reality is none at all ; for people are at liberty to enter into my service, or keep out of it, as they think proper. If they enter into it, they are to submit to my conditions. This you must grant is nothing more than what is reasonable.

Y. Gentleman. As to this exact conformity, I must beg leave, madam, to call it in question : for it has been shewn to the satisfaction of all candid and rational inquirers, that there are several ingredients in these pills which are not prescribed in the dispensatory ; and what further deserves your consideration, that in some instances they contradict one another, which, as they are all to be swallowed at the same time, must be attended with bad effects. Thus the first pill is in one respect of a nature directly contrary to the second, as one of your servants has lately shewn in an excellent treatise. * But supposing for argument's sake your pills have this exact agreement with the dispensatory, then it follows that they are superfluous, and unnecessary : because, if the prescriptions are the same, it can be of no use to call the ingredients by new names : on the contrary, many inconveniences and much confusion may arise from laying aside the old terms, which are much better than any which you can invent. Thus in either case, whether your pills are made up in conformity to the dispensatory or not, you ought to retain the use of them no longer ; for in the first case they *may* do harm, and *can* do no good ; in the other they *must* do harm, because they are wrong in their very nature.

But you say, there can be no hardship in taking these pills, because whoever enters into your family ought to submit to the conditions you please to impose upon them. This argument you tell me I must grant to be reasonable. I must indeed, madam, grant that you have a *power*, but I can by no means grant that you have a *right* of laying down whatever terms of admission you think proper : for when you left your elder sister's family, who for her fornications with the kings and princes of the earth is justly called the Whore of Babylon, you promised you would keep close to the dispensatory, and lay aside all those quack medicines, by which she has poisoned and corrupted above half of Christendom ; and yet what is very extraordinary, no sooner had you and your brothers Martin and John got yourselves fairly out of her clutches, and

* See *Queries concerning the 39 Articles*—London, J. Johnson, St. Paul's Church-yard, 1772.

set up in business for yourselves, than you immediately began prescribing pills for your respective families, tho' you had declared over and over again, that the dispensatory was alone sufficient, and contained all things *ad salutem necessaria*. It is no wonder that your elder sister gave into this practice: for she was ambitious of power and riches, and readily adopted every measure that tended to promote her secular interest. But as you disclaimed these wicked and mercenary views, as you professed to rectify all her mistakes, and to reform all her impious, tyrannical customs, it is surprising that you should retain this unwarrantable usurpation over our natural rights and liberties, and act upon the very same principles which you had condemned in your sister's conduct.—Dr. Cranmer, whom you at first employed in preparing these pills, was undoubtedly a great and a good man, and we are very highly indebted to him for the excellent advice and instructions he gave you in correcting many errors, and reforming many abuses: but it should be remembered, that he lived at a time when the mists of ignorance were beginning only to disperse, and when the light of truth had not yet shone forth in that meridian splendour to which it has since attained. Besides, he had been educated in your sister's family, and had imbibed strong prejudices in favour of some of her opinions and customs. This ignorance and these prejudices, which were in a manner unavoidable, will easily account for, and perhaps in some measure excuse, that palpable contradiction into which he fell: for tho' he professed in words, that the dispensatory contained all things *ad salutem necessaria*, yet he in fact declared that these pills were necessary too; and thus what he gave us with one hand, he drew back with the other.

O. Lady. I must allow, there is something plausible in what you say, but I think you proceed much too far. I am willing to compromise the matter with you, and am ready to give up some of my pills, which perhaps may be a little nauseous, if you will consent to take the rest: but I cannot altogether renounce this privilege of prescribing for my family, which

I have long enjoyed, and which I am persuaded redounds no less to their advantage than to my honour. I cannot bear the thought of being reduced to a level with those vile sectaries and schismatics, who acknowledge no human authority, who have no visible bond of union, and who for this reason must ever live in a state of perpetual discord and contention.

Y. Gentleman. Your offer at first view, madam, appears very gracious and condescending. You are ready to meet me as it were half way, and to give up a part of the post you occupy, since you find the whole is no longer tenable. But, madam, I must beg leave to inform you, that I stand upon higher ground, and see farther than you are willing to imagine. I plainly perceive, that this boasted privilege of prescribing for your servants is built on a weak and a false foundation. I regard not which of your pills you are willing to give up, nor which you are desirous of retaining. I reject them *all*, not because I think them all unwholesome, or disagreeable to my palate, but because they are all of your prescribing; because you have usurped a power in fact, which you have disclaimed in words; because you have acknowledged the prescriptions of the dispensatory alone to be sufficient, and yet have dared to add others of your own invention. It is to no purpose for you to say, that your prescriptions are conformable to those of the dispensatory. I have considered this point already, and shall only add to what I have said already on this head, that it is your *authority* not your *skill* in prescribing, which I now call in question. Whatever dignity you may suppose annexed to this privilege, the least reflexion might have convinced you, that an usurped power, such as yours undoubtedly is, can never confer any real dignity at all. Your honour and reputation would be far better secured by acting consistently with your own repeated declarations, and renouncing a prerogative that is incompatible with the rights of humanity. For my own part, till you give up this unjustifiable usurpation over my liberty, and my conscience, I will never enter into your service; but will be content to

be precluded from all those emoluments, which my education had prepared me to receive, and my friends had taught me to expect.—The day, however distant it may be, will I am confident arrive, when the opprobrious names of sectary and schismatic will be no longer heard, when the voice of truth will finally prevail, when the prescriptions of the dispensatory will be alone regarded, and when all your servants regulating their opinions by this infallible standard will be linked together in one great society, and agree, if not in unity of sentiment, which is impossible, yet in what is much better, in unity of affection, and live together in mutual peace, friendship and benevolence.

PHILELEUTHERUS.

DISSENTIENT.

PROTEST *in the House of Lords*
against the EAST INDIA BILL passing.

I. **B**ECAUSE the bill takes away from a great body corporate, and from several free subjects of this realm, the exercise of a legal franchise, without any legal cause of forfeiture assigned. The persons appointing the commissioners had by law a right to elect; and the persons chosen had by law a capacity of being elected. The choice was regularly made according to the constitution of the company. It was confirmed on ballot. The supervisors had a full right vested in them agreeable to the powers and conditions of their appointment. No abuse has been suggested, no delinquency has been charged. These legal rights and capacities are therefore taken away by a mere act of arbitrary power; the precedent of which leaves no sort of security to the subject for his liberties; since his exercising them, in the strictest conformity to all the rules of law, as well as to those of general equity and moral conduct, is not sufficient to prevent parliament from interesting its sovereign powers to divest him of those rights by means of which insecurity the honourable distinction between the British and other forms of government is in a great measure lost; a misfortune which we are sorry to find greatly growing upon us by those temporary occasional and partial acts of parliament, which, with-

out consideration of their conformity to the general principles of our law and constitution, are adopted rashly and hastily on every petty occasion.

II. Because this bill appears to us a manifest violation of the public faith. The charter of the East India company has been granted by the crown, authorised by act of parliament, and purchased for valuable consideration of money lent, and paid. The charter empowers the company to manage its own affairs, according to its own discretion, by persons of its own appointment. This bill suspends for a time the exercise of this privilege, and by grounding the supervision upon the actual interference of parliament on the affairs of the company, establishes a principle which may be used for perpetuating indefinitely the restraint, because parliament may keep their affairs by frequent revisions almost perpetually under consideration. The same principle is almost applicable to the suspension or deprivation of any other privilege which they hold under their charter. We admit that it is difficult to fix any legal limit to the extent of legislative power; but we apprehend that parliament is as much bound as any individual to the observance of its own compacts; else it is impossible to understand what public faith means, or how public credit can subsist.

III. Because it appears by evidence at the bar of this house upon oath, that the company had received assurances from their chairman and deputy chairman, that the appointment of a commission for superintending and regulating their affairs would be approved by administration. This is the only channel of communication with ministers that the company can have, and it is peculiarly hard that, driven from all confidence in public faith and the laws of their country, they should find no security for their charter privileges against the attempts made by those very ministers, under whose sanction they had all possible reason to believe they had been acting.

IV. Because it appears to us that the company was not only authorised by law, but bound in duty to appoint a commission for regulating their affairs and correcting abuses; and it would in our opinion furnish a more plausible

plausible ground for attacking the lawful powers of the company, if it were charged that they had not exercised them for redress of the said abuses, than that they had appointed a commission for such a necessary purpose: it might have been alleged by the adversaries of the company, that non-use and neglect of applying legal powers for the ends for which such powers were given, were matters of delinquency in that corporation, and might have subjected them to process in the courts below, or to an adverse proceeding in parliament. It is a government as we conceive full of deceit as well as violence, where men are to be punished if they decline, or to be restrained if they endeavour, to exercise their lawful powers.

V. BECAUSE we have reason to believe from public opinion and report that great abuses still prevail and increase in the company's settlements abroad, which makes it highly expedient that the commission restrained by this bill for six months should have as little delay as possible. Six months delay in the commission will, by the nature of the season, certainly protract its operation for a year, and probably for much longer. By this means all abuses will gain ground, and their reformation will become more difficult: nor can we allow that the speculation of more ample powers to be hereafter given by parliament (but which are not as yet so much as proposed) can furnish an adequate reason for preventing the operation of such powers as legally exist at present. Besides, without suspending the commission, any degree of authority thought expedient might have been superadded to the present powers given by the company: We do therefore in this solemn manner exculpate ourselves to the present time, and to posterity, from having any share in the oppressions which may arise, or be continued on the native inhabitants in the company's possessions in India; and from any part in the danger which may happen to their valuable possessions from the waste or decay of their revenues, or in the loss or diminution of trade, which may so very probably arise from this arbitrary delay of a timely remedy. It must be a matter of astonishment to the public, who have for a long time earnestly and

anxiously looked to the company, or to parliament, for redress of the grievances in India, to find at length, that the latter is only employed in preventing the former from doing its duty; that instead of correcting the abuse, we oppose ourselves to the reformation; that when it was expected, that those who have wronged the company should be brought to exemplary punishment, the suffering company itself is deprived of its rights; and instead of calling delinquents to account, the persons legally empowered to correct or restrain them are by parliament suspended from their office. It was the more necessary for the company to give the strictest attention to their affairs, to enable them to answer the exorbitant demands of government, as it appeared from the witnesses at the bar, that the exactions of parliament have amounted to more than the whole of the profits from the late acquisitions and the trade in consequence of them, while the proprietors who have spent so much, and so often risked their all for obtaining these acquisitions, have not been permitted to divide even so much as the profits of their former trade would have afforded.

VI. BECAUSE the bill was brought in at a season when the house is always ill attended, and carried through with a violent and indecent precipitation. The reason assigned for this precipitation is as unsatisfactory as the act is violent; "that unless the bill was passed, the commissioners might sail during the recess at Christmas;" this, considering the circumstances, is almost physically impossible; nor, if it were otherwise, can we think the mere possibility of the abuse of a legal right in the subject, any sort of reason for our being precipitate in taking it away.

VII. BECAUSE a reason of fact is alleged in the preamble of the bill, stating the expence of the commission to be very considerable; and this house has not before it any account or estimate of the expences actual or probable, nor are we supplied with any accounts shewing or tending to shew the present ability or inability of the company to bear it; so that lords are made to assert facts, and on these facts to ground a law, altering the condition and suspending the charter right of the company, without a possibility

sibility of knowing whether the said facts are true or false. Lords, in whom the law places such an high confidence, that it accepts, in all cases of property, their honour in the place of the sworn testimony of other men, ought in their public character to be remarkably punctilious in affirming any matter which can affect such property, without a thorough knowledge of its truth.

VIII. BECAUSE this house, not content with asserting the said facts without any knowledge of their foundation, did absolutely resolve to continue entirely uninformed, refusing to call for the evidence of the directors concerning the expence; or, in a matter of such importance both in itself and in its example, to follow the ancient settled parliamentary course of desiring a conference with the commons, in order to be acquainted with the evidence which they received as the grounds of their proceeding, by which means this house submits to be the instrument of the commons, to be merely the register of their acts, and to lower in the estimation of the world the natural honour and dignity of the peers.

IX. BECAUSE this bill for suspending the legal powers of the company, in the appointment of its own officers, appears to us to be part of a design, long since formed, and never abandoned, for enlarging the influence of the crown (already far too prevalent and extensive) by the introduction of ministerial authority in the nomination to the numerous lucrative employments now in the gift of the company, a design which, adhering to the principles of the protest of the 9th of February, 1768, we think ourselves obliged to oppose. We therefore do protest against this bill, as evidently a leading part in that design, as inexpedient, unconstitutional, supported neither by any fact that we know or any reason that we have heard, as contrary to natural faith, injurious to public credit and to the legal rights of the subjects, and hurried through this house in a manner neither decent nor parliamentary, nor suitable to the independence and dignity of the lords.

(Signed) *Richmond, Devonshire,
Torrington, Marston.*

DESCRIPTION of the MODERN OPERA.

WHEN I consider at what an immense salary an opera dancer was retained the last winter, and is likely to be continued this season at a still more extravagant price; an invective against the prevailing degeneracy of the age is a matter of course. But if I pursue the thought, and reflect that such a sum is laid out to furnish a relief for the pauses of the most irrational species of dramatic composition, my indignation knows no bounds, and finds the common weapons of satyr not poignant enough for her purpose.

Were it possible for resentment to soar to yet a higher pitch, the unpleasing speculation might still be extended: for at what exorbitant expence must the whole of such an entertainment be conducted, a single article of which is rated so high! But an opera subscription is soon filled; and though the nation sinks under the weight of an insupportable debt, which the improving spirit of taxation is not able to lighten; though the most common necessities of life be so dear, that misery is constrained to rake the channels for a meal, yet shall the most paltry kind of dissipation challenge the most ample contributions, as if charity had no business, and every public as well as private want was redressed, and that this was but a necessary drain for the superfluity of riches. However, excluding its expensive education, let us examine this favourite foundling of the great in another light, and see if we can discover what features or qualities could so forcibly operate, as to have won such liberal tutelage. But the matter will not bear an enquiry, unless distortion pass for beauty, and the want of every thing that should be engaging be the highest recommendation. For are not sentiment, propriety of character, justness of action, and every other dramatic law, sacrificed to mere SONG? The music, indeed, with its accompaniments, like a cawl wrapping a skeleton, may in some measure conceal its deformity; but abstracted from these, try to view it without contempt. Pity so divine an art should be employed to qualify an amusement which presents us with

with an outrage on nature in every instance. The sweating a jockey to reduce him to a certain weight has ever conveyed to me an idea most unnatural and shocking; but the thought of a man's reducing his voice to a certain standard, to be able to withdraw it to the most effeminate tenuity, is full of more than ordinary horror. Human nature must recoil at this in spite of prejudices, and should beget in us a detestation of its effects. Yet now, no note can charm but what comes liquified from the throat of a *TENBUCCI*; no step is graceful that has not a precedent in *MADAME HEINEL*: in short, the Opera is the ruling passion, and every young man and miss of quality are obliged to go minutely through all the exercises of a book and a wax light, to fit them for this assembly. Our own theatres are inclining very fast to the reigning vice of the age, where sing-song too much usurps the place of sense; even epilogues are sung, and without the seasoning of a few airs, a paltry *PRELUDE* will not go down. A young lady or gentleman, with a smack of the gamut, shall command their terms, whilst *Mrs. YATES* is ungenerously discarded, and *LEE* retails oratory at a tavern.

A laudable spirit once prevailed amongst the nobility and gentry of this nation, in the support of a fund for encouraging the more frequent representation of the plays of *Shakespeare* and our other best dramatic writers, and the securing a succession of players of both sexes equal to the characters they were to sustain. The great end was answered; for whilst we fix the meridian of theatrical reputation, and the noblest sentiments accompanied with the noblest elocution and action, we also cannot fail of dismissing the audience improved, whilst the finest feelings of the human breast were awaked, and as the tragic or the comic Muse inspired, the smile or tear was justified by nature, and by reason. But alas! that spirit is extinct, and the culture which was so justly bestowed on the growth of our own soil, is now unworthily transferred to a sterile exotic. Yet we are not to wonder, that the great, they who hourly offend against nature, should be unwilling to see her mirror held up.

Appendix, 1772.

They may find an inconvenience in contracting a love for virtue, and a detestation of vice; and as if they dreaded a relapse to sensibility, the complicated agony of a *LEAR*, or the distressful insanity of a *Hamlet*, are rarely hazarded. But the more innocent business of an opera rids them of such apprehensions; where all the passions are *BURLESQUED*, love is seen without tenderness, affliction without sorrow, and captivity too abject to sigh for freedom; where nothing occurs to reproach them for what they have never felt, or to incite them to what they wish not to feel. From the languishing of an opera hero, or the evaporating thrill of a love-sick heroine, their sons, perhaps admirals or generals in destination, are in no danger of incurring the more robust habits which may give manliness to the voice, or disturb the œconomy of a fine shape; and their daughters are secure from the ignominy of a tear-swollen eye. If the play-house receives a visit, it is at an hour when the upper gallery alone should remain. Scandalous partiality! have we quarrelled with our reason, or have we renounced the name of Britons? If not, for shame, let us abjure this fashionable error, and be converts to sober judgement, nor blush, even on an opera night, to be seen at an English play when the curtain draws up, and leave half price and pantomime to the mob.

Neither the moroseness of a Cynic, nor the presumption of a sanguine reformist, has dictated these hints: I would not be understood as if I meant to stop the current of rational pleasure; and I am not so fond of impossibilities as to attempt to eradicate luxury, which is become a native of the soil. This canker is found in every nation, and, though long in a state of harmless embryo, quickens at last, and eats out the bowels of its parent. The same latent principle is now busy in corroding the vitals of this nation, but its progress, like that of every other corrosive, is more or less rapid according to the nature of the subject it has to prey upon. Nothing contributes to soften it more than a mixture of foreign manners, making it liable, like gold that receives a base alloy, to a variety of changes and

impressions, which it was before proof against. Whilst our manners shall remain unmixed, our decay will be gradual. Then let us purify ourselves from every foreign taint, revive amongst us British sentiments and British pleasures; let us restore a manliness to both; and as our virtues are celebrated over all the world, if we must be degenerated, let us maintain a dignity even in our VICES; and let it be recorded of Britons, that their decline was so insensible, that their period seemed the effect rather of uncontrollable fate than of constitutional depravity.

Cheap and expeditious Method of draining Land; from the Georgical Essays.

FIRST make the main drains down the slope or fall of the field. When the land is very wet, or has not much fall, there should, in general, be two of these to a statute acre; for the shorter the narrow drains are, the less liable they will be to accidents.

The width of the trench for the main drains should be at the top, about thirty inches, but the width at the bottom must be regulated by the nature and size of the materials intended to be used. If the drain is to be made of bricks ten inches long, three inches thick, and four inches in breadth, then the bottom of the drain must be twelve inches; but if the common sale bricks are used, then the bottom must be proportionably contracted. In both cases there must be an interstice of one inch between the bottom brick and the sides of the trench, and the vacuity must be filled up with straw, rushes, or loose mould. For the purpose of making these drains, I order my bricks to be moulded ten inches long, four broad, and three thick. These dimensions make the best drain; and I beg leave to be understood, throughout this essay, as speaking of bricks formed in the above manner.

The method I pursue in constructing my main drain is as follows.

When the ground is soft and spongy, the bottom of the drain is laid with bricks, placed across. On these, on each side, two bricks are laid flat, one upon the other, forming a drain six inches high and four broad. This is covered with bricks laid flat.

When the bottom of the trench is found to be a firm and solid body, as clay or marle, the bottom of the drain does not then require being laid with bricks. In that case, the sides are formed by placing one brick edgeways, instead of two laid flat.

This latter method is much cheaper, and in such land equally durable with the other. When stones are used instead of bricks, the bottom of the drain should be about eight inches in width. And here it will be proper to remark that, in all cases, the bottom of the main drains must be sunk four inches below the level of the narrow ones, even at the point where the latter fall into them.

The main drains should be kept open till the narrow ones are begun from them, after which they may be finished; but before the earth is returned upon the stones or bricks, it will be adviseable to throw in straw, rushes, or brush-wood, to increase the freedom of the drain.

The small narrow drains should be cut at the distance of sixteen or eighteen feet from each other, and should fall into the main drain at very acute angles, to prevent any stoppage. At the point where they fall into, and eight or ten inches above it, they should be made firm with brick or stone.

In making the narrow drains I employ four labourers. The first man, with a common spade, takes out the turf, or sods, eighteen inches wide, (the drains being before marked out) and lays them carefully on one side; the second man, with a common spade also, digs out two, three, or more spits of earth (laying it on the other side of the trench) till he has cut through the soil, or staple, and come to the under-stratum of clay, marle, or other hard and solid body of earth. The bottom and sides of this trench must be cleanly wrought, and, allowing for the sloping of the sides in working, should at the bottom be clear sixteen inches wide.

In this trench the frame is laid; and, in the middle of it, the third man, who ought to be the strongest and most expert, works the long narrow draining spade in the body of the clay. By taking care to work it at its

full depth, he is always sure of his level, if the drains are properly laid out. The wooden frame is of great use; it gives a firm support to the feet of the workman, keeps the bottom of the trench smooth and clean, and serves as a purchase to the wings of the narrow tool.

When thirty or forty yards have been cut out by the draining spade, the fourth man cleans the bottom of the drain with the scoop, and works it quite smooth; he then covers it with the fods, laying the grass side downwards. In this part of the work too much care and attention cannot be used. The sod should be found and dry, cut even on the sides, and fitted closely to each other. No broken or rotten pieces should be put in; and if any of the fods taken out in cutting the trench for the narrow drains are bad, good ones, firm and full of roots of rushes, strong grass, &c. should be got in the other parts of the field, and their place supplied with the decayed ones. In marshy bad fields, where sound turf cannot be had, little sticks may be placed across the trench, and the loose and tender fods safely laid upon them. The narrow drains being thus covered, the earth must be thrown in again, taking care that the clay, &c. brought out by the narrow tool be not mixed with it. No greater length of these drains should be cut than can be finished the same day. The price varies with the depth. For the main drains cut thirty inches above and thirty-eight deep, laid with bricks, covered, &c. I give about nine-pence per rod, (eight yards). For the narrow drains constructed and completely finished according to the foregoing directions, their whole depth (including that of the trench and that of the draining spade) being thirty-two or thirty-four inches, I give five pence half-penny per rod (eight yards.)

From my much respected friend, the Rev. Mr. Whately, of Nonfuch Park, in Surry, I first received an account of the Hertfordshire and Essex method of draining; at the same time he obligingly sent me a set of the tools made use of there, with very particular directions.

The great price of stone and brick

in my neighbourhood rendered the Hertfordshire method too expensive, Hence I took the idea of the sod drains. and the improvement of the tools. Mr. Young, in the second edition of his justly esteemed *Six Months Northern Tour*, calls me the inventor of this method of draining. All the merit I claim is that of having introduced, together with an amendment of their construction, the application of these celebrated tools to a mode of draining with fods or turf, where stone, brick, or even brush-wood is extremely scarce and dear.

Wherever this is the case, I can, from my own experience, recommend the hollow drains covered in the above manner.

I must observe that, in loose crumbly soils, where the wetness does not arise from the retention of water by an under-stratum of clay, but from springs, these drains are improper: for such lands, they should be made of brick or stone. On the contrary, which is most commonly the case, when the wet is prevented from passing off by an under-stratum of clay, marle or a mixture of both, these sod drains are excellent.

For if the whole staple or soil is cut through, as it ought to be, the narrow tool will be wholly worked in a solid body, and leave a firm compact ledge, or shoulder, of six inches wide on each side, for the sod to rest on. The strength with which the fods are supported, and their depth in the ground, will effectually prevent their removal by any weight on the surface, and secure them from all effects of the weather. Being, at their least depth, twelve inches below the surface, they will also be beyond the reach of the plow.

With respect to the shape of the narrow drains, it will be scarce necessary to observe, that their great depth and contracted width enabled them to draw in the moisture of the earth, and at the same time to keep themselves clear and open.

The tools should be formed of well wrought iron, and made with great care and exactness. Including the shaft, the narrow tool should weigh twelve pounds.

Three Letters (by Mr. HUGHES) designed for the GUARDIAN. Now first printed.

(From Duncombe's Correspondence.)

S I R,

THERE are few men but are capable, at some time or other, of making a right judgment of themselves; therefore having, as I think, caught myself in one of these wise fits, I am resolved to make use of it, while it lasts, and lay my case before you. I was bred a mercer. I need not tell you that most of our profession are orators. I have, with some pains, attained to a great volubility of tongue, and am a perfect master in the art of shop rhetoric, which, with the help of a fair wig, a plausible bow, a gentle inclination of the head in proper parts of my discourse, and an easy motion of the hand, sets off all that I utter, and has helped me to thrive in the world very comfortably. By this means, Mr. Ironside, as I owe my prosperity to noise, I am grown an utter enemy to silence; and when I go among some of my plain honest neighbours, who are not of any of the talking professions, I cannot help assuming a superiority over them, which, I find, has been a little resented. I have often resolved to confine my oratory to the verge of my shop, and to employ it only in setting off my silks and brocades; but long habits are not easily overcome, and the musical sound of my own voice has tempted me as often to break that resolution. Many of my acquaintance, I know, would take it kindly if I talked less, and if you could put me in a way to do it I should be very glad to oblige them. You must know, that I am sometimes chairman of a club, where some of them complain that they have not their share of the discourse, and others (in raillery, I suppose) call me the fine speaker. I have offered to pay double for my club, but that will not satisfy them. Besides, Mr. Guardian, I have heard that you moralists say, it is difficult for a man to talk much without offending against truth, innocence, or good manners; and how do I know, now I am serious, whether this unhappy talent may not, at some time or other, have misled me into falsehood,

uncharitableness, or scandal? It is possible that the superfluity of my discourse may have fallen upon the reputation of some honest man, and have done him an irreparable injury. I may, in the torrent of my loquacity, have lessened real merit, or magnified little failings, beyond the allowance of charity or humanity. I may have raised an unjust jealousy by a flower of speech, practised upon credulity by a smooth sentence, and, in the heat of an argument, I may have called a man knave by a shake of the head and a shrug of the shoulders. To be plain, I have searched my heart, and find there is a great deal of vanity at the bottom of it. Therefore, Mr. Guardian, I am now in a proper disposition, if you will be pleased to give me a lecture on this subject, and be so kind as to convince me that I am a coxcomb, you will do a very particular service to, Sir,

Your very humble servant.

TO NESTOR IRONSIDE, Esq.

Or, in his absence, to the Keeper of the Lion, at Button's Coffee-house, Covent-garden.

OLD IRONSIDE, Sept. 1713.

IF your lion had not less breeding than a bear, he would not have opened his throat against so genteel a diversion as masquerading*, which has ever been looked upon, in all polite countries, as tending to no other end than to promote a better understanding between the sexes. But I shall take another opportunity, Mr. Ironside, to talk with you upon this subject. My present business is with the lion; and since this savage has behaved himself so rudely, I do, by these presents, challenge him to meet me at the next masquerade, and desire you will give orders to Mr. Button to bring him thither, in all his terrors, where, in defence of the innocence of these midnight amusements, I intend to appear against him, in the habit of Signor Nicolini, to try the merits of this cause by single combat. I am, your's,

INCOGNITO.

HONEST NESTOR,

PR'YTHEE, stop your lion's mouth a little on the chapter of masquerading. I have pursued a dear creature several

* See the Guardian, Vol. II. No. 142 and 154.

several of these gay nights through three or four as odd changes as any in "Ovid's Metamorphoses," and she has promised, at the next, in the habit of a Gypsy, to tell me finally my fortune. Be dumb till then, and afterwards say what you please.

Your humble servant.

TIM. FROLICK.

[From the same.]

A Letter from Mr. HUGHES to Mr. ADDISON.

Dear Sir, Oct. 6, 1713.

I do not doubt but you know, by this time, that Mr. Steele has abruptly dropped the *Guardians**. He has published this day a paper called the *Englishman*, which begins with an answer to the *Examiner*, written with great boldness and spirit, and shows that his thoughts are at present entirely on politics. Some of his friends are in pain about him, and are concerned that a paper should be discontinued, which might have been generally entertaining without engaging in party matters.

I know not whether any such paper as the *Guardian* may hereafter be attempted by other hands. I remember, you were once pleased to ask me, what I thought would be a good plan; and this unexpected occasion has given me a thought, which I beg leave to offer to your consideration: and because I cannot, at this distance, so well explain it to you in the compass of a letter, I inclose a slight sketch I have just begun of it to day: only I must acquaint you, that what I send is a sequel of a paper which is to open the plan, and which describes a society of learned men, of various characters, who meet together to carry on a conversation on all kinds of subjects, and who empower their secretary to draw up any of their discourses, or publish any of their writings, under the title of the *Register*. By this means, I think, the town might be sometimes entertained with dialogue, which will be a new way of writing, either related or set down in form, under the names of different speakers; and some-

times with essays, or with discourses in the person of the writer of the paper.

I chuse to send you the second paper, though unfinished, because you will see an offer in it at a new-invented character, with a cast of oddness in it to draw attention, and to lay a foundation for a great variety of matter and of adventures.

I wish I could tempt you, by any slight thought of mine, to take something of this kind into consideration: I should, on such condition, be willing to furnish one paper in a week, on this, or any plan you shall think more proper; but without you I shall make no farther use of it.

I shall only add, that it is my opinion, and, I believe, that of most others, that such a paper should be only three times a week: when it should begin, or whether at all or no, I submit to you, and shall be glad to be favoured with a few lines from you on this, directed to me in, &c.

JOHN HUGHES.

Mr. ADDISON to Mr. HUGHES.

Dear Sir, Milton, † Oct. 12, 1713.

I AM very much obliged to you for your kind letter, and the specimen, which I read over with great pleasure --- I think the title of the *Register* would be less assuming than that of the *Humanity-club*; but, to tell you truly, I have been so taken up with thoughts of that nature for these two or three years last past, that I must now take some time *pour me delasser*, and lay in fewel for a future work. In the mean time, I should be glad if you would set such a project on foot, for I know nobody else capable of succeeding in it, and turning it to the good of mankind, since my friend has laid it down. I am in a thousand troubles for poor Dick, and wish that his zeal for the public may not be ruinous to himself ‡; but he has sent me word, that he is determined to go on, and that any advice I can give him, in this particular, will have no weight with him.

I beg

* The last number of the *Guardian* was published Oct. 1, 1713.

† Near Rugby, in Warwickshire.

‡ Addison (as the event shewed) was too true a prophet, his "friend Dick," who was then member for Stockbridge, being expelled the House of Commons, March 15, 1713-14, for some libellous paragraphs in the *Englishman*, and in another paper called the *Crisis*.

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combat. I am, you

HONEST NESTOR,

PRYTHKE

a little of the sheen of the
ing. I have

* See the Guardian, Vol. II. No. 147 and 148.

I beg you will present my most sincere respects to Sir Richard Blackmore, and that you will add my sister's* who is now with me, and very much his humble servant. I wish I could see him and yourself in these parts, where I think of staying a month or two longer.

I am always, with the greatest truth and esteem, Sir, your most faithful and most obedient servant.

J. ADDISON.

[From the same.]

Earl of CORKE to Mr. DUNCOMBE.

Marignolle, July 18, 1755.

YOUR kind letter, dear Sir, should have been sooner answered by me, if a gouty winter, and an unhealthy spring, had not rendered my correspondence irksome, because it must have been plaintive. I judge of my friends by myself, and therefore would at least hide from them all complaints till entirely over; well knowing what the heart feels on these occasions. The heat of Italy is universally acknowledged; so ought the cold to be: yet I have seldom heard it mentioned. Being perfectly idle, I have kept a diary of the weather, it would amaze you to see the account from December to the middle of May. The uncertainty of the weather was still more surprizing than the cold: we have had all kinds of seasons in a day. For the future, think better of the situation of our own island than you have done. I have been a terrible sinner in my opinion of England. Travelling has corrected and opened my eyes in that particular. I repent, and shall sin no more.

We are settled in a country-house near Florence. The situation is high, the prospect pleasant, and the distance from the town (only two miles) allows my daughter the benefit of all her masters, which are many and excellent in their kind. Forgive the Florentines their morals (which appear not openly bad to strangers) and they are an obliging, civil people; who, though without liberty themselves, love to see it in others; so that we live here very

much at our ease, and if not with great pleasure at least not with discontent.

Count Maffei resides at Brescia. He is old, and at present engaged in a controversy on ecclesiastical topics; of which dispute I can tell you no particulars, because indeed I asked none. He is little known here. We have some men of letters in Florence that do honour to their country. Most of them read and understand English. I was amazed to find our authors and language in such high esteem in this part of the world. Let me name some of these literati. The person among them with whom I have the greatest friendship is Dr. Cochi, a most worthy, learned, and ingenious physician. He is in himself a living library, and has a heart not at all inferior to his excellent head. He was in England with the late Lord Huntingdon, and speaks English fluently and well. So does the Abbe Nicolini, who has also been in England, and is a man of great family, of excellent sense, thorough knowledge of books, persons, and things, and particularly obliging and attached to the travellers of our nation. The Abbe Buondelmonte is superior to most, and inferior in learning to none. My health hindered me from attending the exercises of the Cruscan academy last winter; a loss which I hope to repair the next. There Buondelmonte shines. There are several others, but I have sent you a triumvirate not easily to be paralleled.

I suppose the winter has abounded, as usual, in London, with infinite productions of wit, or what wishes to be wit, but as yet I have scarce seen an English book. I expect some soon; amongst them Mr. Johnson's Dictionary, and Hume's History of Great Britain. The latter has made a noise, so as to raise the curiosity of many here. After this expected parcel, I shall scarce venture to send for any more books, lest they fall a prey to the Gallic privateers, who will drown all English books, as evil spirits that ought to be laid in the sea. I am sorry that the chorus of the popular song

† Dorothy, first married to Dr. Sartre (a Frenchman) prebendary of Westminster, and afterwards to Daniel Combes, Esq. Swift (after dining with this lady and her first husband at his prebendal-house, Oct. 25, 1710) says of her, "Addison's sister is a sort of wit, very like him. I am not fond of her, &c."—See Letter viii. of his Journal to Stella.

song is *bella, borrida bella!* As yet we have gained so little by wars, that my wishes are all for peace; but if we must have a war, let it be sharp, short, and decisive.

Your kindness will make you glad to know that I am perfectly recovered, but I owe my recovery to the heat, and not to the cold, of Italy. The latter, indeed, was too strong for me, and knocked me down. I am now enjoying the former, and, as yet, think it agreeable as well as wholesome. The evenings are delightful. We generally walk from eight to ten, without fear of damps, which you will allow is a most happy circumstance.

Few books are written here; some are, but they are local; and the Florentines are in too decaying a state to produce any great or noble work, though they enjoy the finest and some of the rarest manuscripts in the world. The scene of Florence is melancholy. The city extremely beautiful, but poverty and idleness in every street. The shops are shut up four or six hours in the middle of the day. By that you will judge of their trade. Sir Horace Mann, the king's resident here, does great honour to our nation. He lives nobly, keeps an assembly once a week, and omits no civility or act of friendship to his countrymen, or to the Italians, so that scarce any minister was ever so justly esteemed and beloved.

My paper draws me to an end. I will finish almost in your own words; objects, when viewed near, lose their lustre; and the admiration, which first possessed us, turns into a kind of familiarity, that sometimes is the parent of contempt.

I am, dear Sir,

Your obliged and faithful

Humble servant,

CORKE.

A WHIMSICAL COMPARISON.

I SET out three weeks ago from my spot in Cateaton-street, to pay my twentieth annual visit to my good old friends in Wiltshire, where, arriving a day or two before I was expected, I surprised my host and hostess making their usual preparations for the merry Christmas. As the good no-

table lady was busy in her store-room with her black and white puddings, her mince-pies, and the old-accustomed dish (which ever accompanies the hospitable sirloin at her table on Christmas day) plumb broth, my friend was busy in the brewhouse with his directions for some mild ale, which it has ever been his humour to brew at this time of the year for the farmers and lower class of country folk, to whom his house is always open during the twelve days.

As I knew the pleasure these good people took in preparing for the festivity, I determined not to interrupt my friend, but affected a desire of learning so useful a secret, as no one had better liquors in his cellar, whether old stout October, or the fresh mild ale; but in going through the process, to say the truth, instead of attending to the art of making good beer, my mind was particularly employed on the subjects which usually accompany the silver tankard at the Goose and Gridiron in my neighbourhood, and I amused myself with comparing the people of England to a hoghead of ale.

When the wort was first put into the vessel, I thought it represented the people at the time of the Revolution, when the guardian of England had been brewing for the general joy, freedom of thought, independence, and heart-felt happiness. When the heterogeneous mass began to separate, the light frothy scum rose to the top: there's our Nobility, quoth I. The heavier, gross, and lumpish particles sunk to the bottom: these dregs may represent the opposite extreme; and here, cries my friend, tapping a barrel of proper age, here you find the middling class, the pure, clear, sound, wholesome body of the people. I like your conceit, continues he; it jumps with my humour; and since you have made my ale the People, pray let me liken your Pantheon to the hoghead. If the papers do not deceive us, persons of every class meet in this great assembly room: there's none so high, and scarce a wretch so low, but what find an entrance there. Now mark: should I permit the scum which rises to the top, or those foul dregs which have descended to the bottom, to re-

unite

unite and mix with the now-separated beer, farewell the happy hour which the clear, sound, and pleasing draught affords us; all would be flat, and smile no more. So fares it with the middling rank, who mix in the Pantheon with the upper and the lower classes; but could they keep themselves distinct and separate, they would be a pure, sound, and wholesome body.

Are the scum and dregs then of no use? says I. Yes, replied my friend; the former, if it may be called use, is wonderfully powerful in creating *fermentation*, and the latter, properly managed, will produce you an excellent *British spirit*.

WILL HOSIER.

To the EDITOR of the LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

AS I suspect that your mathematical assistants are not apprized of a capital mistake made by the learned Mr. Q. at his first starting in opposition to my lunar discovery, in your Magazine for June last, I would willingly be informed whether I am right in my conjecture.

In his first column he says thus: "Now if the moon has no motion round her center, it is plain that throughout her whole revolution in her orbit, this same point (P) must constantly point to the same part of the heavens that is towards the west." But the truth is, that this point (P) could not always point to the west, unless that the moon was to make a rotation on her axis, in each of her revolutions round our earth: nor is there any other form in which the moon could make a *dead* revolution round our earth, than that which she now makes by divine appointment.

Doctor Keil, in his astronomical lectures, No. 10, has made the same mistake with Mr. Q. while he is accounting for the moon's libration in longitude.

My lunar planetarium is finished, and all the heretics, who have viewed it, are become converts to the true faith.

Whenever any of your mathematical friends shall make an excursion to this place, be pleased to furnish them with

a passport, and the machine shall be shewn to them, and also an experiment to prove what is asserted by me in the second paragraph of this letter. Sir,

Your very humble servant,

Richmond,

Dec. 16, 1772.

W. GARDINER.

NEW ACCOUNT of the EGYPTIAN MUMMIES.

MUMMIES are what most people make mention of in England, and my making a short stay here enables me to give you a few particulars on that subject. Mummies are dead bodies embalmed and wrapped up in certain linen cloths well impregnated with gums, wax, &c. to prevent the bodies corrupting; they are to be found in great quantities about the village of Salcana, a small distance from Cairo, where I now am. The ground where they are found is like a vast burying place, adorned in divers places with many pyramids; there are under the ground many vaulted rooms cut in quarries of white stone, with a hole like the mouth of a well, to descend into them; these walls are square, built with good stones, and filled with sand to close the grotto, which sand is taken out when people are desirous to go in and see them; the visitants are let down, by ropes properly applied, to the bottom, where the door is; the rooms are commonly square, and contain many bye places, where the mummies are deposited, some in stone tombs, others in chests or coffins made of sycamore-wood, with many other ornaments. The dead bodies are wrapped up with rollers or fillets of linen cloth dipped in a composition fit to preserve from corruption; these fillets are so often wrapped about, that there are sometimes more than a thousand ells going in length from head to foot, which are often adorned with many hieroglyphicks painted in gold, representing the qualities and brave actions of the deceased; some have a golden leaf delicately set on the face, others have a kind of a head-piece made of cloth, and prepared with mortar, on which the face of the person is represented in gold. In unwrapping them small metal idols are sometimes found cu-

riously

riously wrought, and some have a little piece of gold under their tongue: some mummies are shut up in chests made up of many cloths pasted together, which are as strong as wooden

ones, and never rot. The balm that preserves these bodies is black, hard, and shining like pitch, and smells pleasantly. Some of these are found three thousand years old.

POETICAL ESSAYS.

For the LONDON MAGAZINE.

A NEW SONG.

MY Walter's bosom, fix'd as frost,
No sighs of mine can move;
Chill damps defend that wint'ry coast,
And quench the lamp of love.

Thus, where the snowy Alps arise,
The sun shines idly gay;
And thus on Lapland's polish'd ice,
Unfelt the light'nings play.

His veins, unthrill'd by soft alarms,
A lazy progress keep;
Unfill'd the circle of his arms,
Where queens might wish to sleep.

Ah! what are graces, Walter tell,
Or manners, hid like thine?
They're pearls within a clouded shell,
Or di'monds in the mine.

A single state conceals from view
What married joys display;
As flow'rs, that shrink at night's cold dew,
Unfold to greet the day.

When death has set thy spirit free,
Hop'st thou to be forgiv'n?—
Canst thou, who shut'st thy own to me,
Expect a future heav'n?

No, Walter, no; when past the grave
'Tis ours to smile or mourn;
Each pleasure and each pain we gave,
Shall to ourselves return!

The ANSWER.

MY Delia asks, why fix'd as frost,
No sighs my breast can move—
The damps that guard this wint'ry coast
Would quench the fiercest love.

True, where the snowy Alps arise,
The sun shines idly gay—
And where at stake my freedom lies,
Unfelt your light'nings play.

Oft has he felt love's soft alarms,
And equal progress kept,
When in the circle of his arms—
—Not queens, indeed—have slept.

Thy charms, my Delia, even thine,
If forc'd would pall the sense;
The slave that works the diamond mine
Can reap no pleasure thence.
Appendix, 1772.

The joys that Cupid keeps for you,
Hymen would but allay;
'Tis marriage is the night's cold dew,
And love the lusty day.

When death has set our spirit free,
How freely then we'll love?
There are, you know as well as me,
No marriages above.

No, no, my Delia, *not*'s the best,
Nor fear—you'll be forgiven—
We do but imitate the blest,
And make on earth an heaven.

WALTER.

Another ANSWER.

AH! why is your *Walter* still doom'd to complain,
A subject by turns for your mirth or disdain?
You blame the slow fire, yet refuse it supplies;
You first starve a passion, then wonder it dies.
Th' embrace often courted, as often refus'd—
The kiss, nay, the hand as unkindly excus'd—
Can coyness inspirit our passions to move?
No: passion still lives on the favours of love.

Ev'n trees mix their branches, the elm with
the vine; [combine;
Ev'n streams, like the Thames and the Isis,
Yet trees have no sense, whatsoe'er they infold,
And streams, tho' they mingle their waters,
are cold.

'Tis ours to sublime the faint pleasures they
teach, [reach:—
And catch at the rapture sense only can
Like the vine, to her *Walter* let *Bessy* but seem,
Then try if her *Walter* is cold as the stream.

Not whiter the bosom, nor sweeter the breath
Of the maiden whose steps brush the dew from
the heath, [confined
Than *Bessy*'s, whose form with such care is
From each ruder blast of the insolent wind,

At art's baleful touch the soft graces will fade,
Which nature bestows on her favorite maid:—
Beware, lovely girl, of that poison beware,
That ruins each grace it pretends to repair.

Since art then, my *Bessy*, can never improve
The bloom of your cheeks, or the warmth of
my love,
In nature's fair temple our lives let's employ,
And worship that parent of freedom and joy.

4 S

1 ne'er

I ne'er sought the wanton who charms with
 design, [wine,
 The choice of wild moments enchanted by
 Whom the next blushing morn shall estrange
 from my sight, [light,
 To mix with the phantoms that shrink at the
 Be the wife of my heart, the support of my
 pride,
 By reason approv'd, and by constancy try'd;
 Whose mind, thro' each change, is propor-
 tion'd to bear
 A share in my transport, a part in my care.
 Such, *Betty*, art thou, whom my soul shall adore
 Till youth's fleeting pleasures enliven no more;
 Till sense shall forsake me, and death be my lot,
 My cares and thy beauties together forgot.

*As the excellent Music of the Airs in the
 Opera of the ROSE, lately condemned at
 Drury-lane Theatre, is, we hear, to be
 soon published, we have selected the fol-
 lowing AIRS as the most pleasing in that
 little Piece.*

I.

HEAR me! blooming Goddess, hear me,
 Queen of smiles and soft desire;
 Send the beauty to endear me,
 Who has lit this am'rous fire.

Oh how sweet the mild dominion
 Of the charmer we approve!
 Honour clips the wanton pinion,
 And we're willing slaves to love.

II.

Ah! think not to deceive me,
 With flatt'ring oaths and lyes;
 'Tis all in vain, believe me,
 For love has piercing eyes.

A trifling present given
 Oft binds affection fast;
 And grateful woman's driven
 To give herself at last.

III.

If a kiss you wou'd gain,
 Am I bound to explain?
 Ah! cou'd you not guess by my eyes?
 When they (without guile)
 So twinkle and smile;
 A glance is enough to the wife.

C H O R U S.

Mr. When the happy knot is ty'd,
 As the bridegroom, thou the bride;
 When the bells for joy have rung,
 And the nuptial-stocking's slung;
 Then, oh then! I need not tell,
 How I love my charming Nell.

Sbe. When, laike ivy to the vine,
 Nelly's arm's fast lock'd in thine,
 To the parish-church we walk,
 How the volks will stare and talk!
 Every lad will copy thee,
 Every lass will envy me.

Both. Joy shall tune the rustic lay,
 Sport shall crown our wedding day:
 Loud the merry bells shall ring,
 Joking friends the stocking sling;
 Let them banter, what care we!
 Innocence is ever free,
 They may gues, but we'll ne'er tell,
 Half the love, 'twixt

He. ————— me and Nell,
Sbe. ————— thee and Nell.

IV.

With such a brisk widow, to whirl time away,
 Ye gods, what a round of delight!
 At home we wou'd titter and romp all the day,
 And fear not a bumper at night.

When warm with the chace, the fleet hounds
 in career,

Our spirits disdaining to flag, [fear,
 We'd whip, spur and fly, without scruple or
 And be in at the death of the stag.

Huzza! Huzza! Huzza!

We'd be in at the death of the stag.

V.

The noblest heart, like purest gold,
 Resists impression while 'tis cold;
 But melted down in love's bright flame,
 Soft and complying to the test,
 It takes the image first impress'd
 And bears it in the faithful breast;
 Thro' circling years the same.

VI.

Bright the sky, and calm the ocean;
 Now my bark will smoothly glide;
 O! how pleasing is the motion,
 Sailing thus with wind and tide!
 Hidden rocks no more beguiling,
 Swelling sails the breezes court;
 Cupid at the helm sits smiling,
 And conducts me safe to port.

L A S T C H O R U S.

Fair and sweet,
 Trim and neat,
 Springs the blushing Rose in May;
 Summer past,
 Autumn's blast
 Shrinks its beauteous leaves away.

But the mind,
 Chaste, refin'd,
 Warm'd by Virtue's cheering ray,
 Ever blows:
 That fresh Rose,
 "Time itself can ne'er decay."

THE MONTHLY CHRONOLOGER

For the Year 1772 concluded.

L O N D O N.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 23.



THIS day there was a general quarterly court of the proprietors of East-India stock, at their house in Leadenhall-street, for the purpose of declaring a dividend on their capital stock from Midsummer last to Christmas ensuing, when the chairman acquainted the court, that that being the usual day for declaring the dividend, the directors had, upon the maturest consideration, come to an opinion, that, in the present situation of the company's affairs, they could not divide more, from Midsummer last to Christmas next, than *three per cent.* but that, as they omitted coming to a declaration last September, this proposition must come to a general ballot; which, if it was their pleasure, should be on Tuesday next.

After many debates, and some able calculations, relative to the cash account and investments, which the proprietors were enabled to make from their late resort to the accounts of the company, the first proposition of the chairman was acceded to, and on Tuesday next it is to go to the ballot. The court then adjourned to that day.

The same day a meeting of the creditors of Mess. Neale, James, Fordyce, and Down, was held at Guildhall, when, after examining the whole of the accounts, a dividend of *four shillings* in the pound was ordered to be made.

THURSDAY 24.

Yesterday the lord-mayor and two sheriffs went to the several markets in this city, to many of the bankers, principal tradesmen, and coffee-houses about the 'Change, to collect money and provisions for the prisoners in the several gaols, when near 60*l.* was collected, and a large quantity of provisions of all kinds. This was the largest collection made for several years.

Mrs. Cornelys's house and furniture, in Soho-square, was sold by auction for 10,200*l.*

FRIDAY 25.

This being Christmas-day, the same was observed at court as a high festival: at noon their majesties, preceded by the heralds and pursuivants at arms, went to the Chapel Royal at St. James's, and heard a sermon preached by the sub-almoner, after which their majesties advanced to the altar, and received the holy communion from the hands of the lord bishop of London. The knights companions of the Garter, Thistle, and Bath, appeared in the collars of their respective orders, and the sword of state was

carried to and from chapel by the earl of March.

Yesterday and to-day, the committee at the Thatched-house in St. James's-street discharged 23 debtors from the several prisons in London and Westminster, most of whom are useful manufacturers with large families.

Orders are given for a general survey to be made of all his majesty's forces and garrisons in Great Britain early in the spring, under the inspection of two general officers, and two experienced engineers; returns of which are to be made to the war-office, for forming out an estimate for their repairs.

SATURDAY 26.

The following paragraph appeared in the public papers of this day; but we will not vouch for its authenticity. — An old correspondent assures it is an undoubted fact, that there is a woman now living in the town of Islington, who was born in New Prison, (where her father and mother were committed, and afterwards suffered at Tyburn for coining) whose brother was transported, whose first husband was shot in attempting to rob a gentleman's coach, and whose two last husbands were executed within these few years for different felonies.

TUESDAY 29.

This evening three men went to a public house in Thames-street, the master being from home, when one of them pretended to be a serjeant at mace, another his yeoman, and the third their follower. The mistress of the house being in the bar, the pretended serjeant at mace told her, that he had several actions out against her husband, and therefore advised him to keep out of the way, adding, that he scorned to oppress any man, but at the same time told her, that for his civility she must give him half a guinea, his yeoman 5*s.* and his follower 2*s.* 6*d.* The woman, being greatly frightened, complied with the request, and gave each his demand. The husband soon after came home, and the affair being related to him, he pursued the fellows, and took the person who passed for the yeoman. He was yesterday carried before the lord mayor, who committed him to the Poultry compter.

It is a melancholy truth, that above 6000 of the Spital-fields weavers are at this time out of employ: the workhouses and hospitals are filled with them.

WEDNESDAY 30.

Orders are given for a reduction in the guards, from 50 to 38 men in each company, which is to take place after the general muster, which will be to-morrow se'n night.

An English brigantine, called the *Elizabeth*, Lewis Wallace, master, bound from Leghorn for Alexandria in Egypt, was cast away in her passage thither, upon the coast of Candia, on the 9th of January last; and the master and three of his men, going on shore with what effects they could save out of the wreck, were barbarously murdered and plundered by a guard of about fifty Turks, who were upon the coasts, by order of the bashaw, to hinder the exportation of corn. His majesty's ambassador at Constantinople, upon the first notice of it, applied to the Porte for satisfaction on the offenders, and for the recovery of their effects. Orders were immediately issued to the bashaw, by whose diligence eleven persons were taken up and put in gaol, where they still are, and part of the effects were actually recovered, which are deposited in the public treasury in Candia, and will be withdrawn whenever the respective proprietors of them shall make application to his majesty's ambassador at Constantinople, and make out their claims. The effects recovered were four thousand three hundred and forty-two patacks, or Leghorn dollars, five strings of coral, one hundred and thirteen piasters, a sprig of diamonds set in gold, a pair of diamond ear-rings, a silver-hilted sword, two cloudy emeralds, and a gold watch.

THURSDAY 31.

Preparations are now making at the Queen's palace for her majesty's lying-in; and Mrs. Prescott, wife of Capt. Prescott, of Salisbury-street in the Strand, who is appointed wet-nurse, and other persons in different stations, have received orders to be in readiness to attend.

His majesty has ordered his annual bounty of 1000*l.* to be equally distributed to the poor inhabitants of the city and liberties of Westminster.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Amelia has ordered a list to be made out, of the names of the most industrious necessitous poor in the neighbourhood of Gunnersbury-house, to be laid before her royal highness forthwith, in order to the granting them some relief in this severe season.

The island of Dominica has not suffered so much by the late hurricane as has been represented, which appears by the following paragraph, published in their Gazette on Saturday, Sept. 12, 1772. — "How happy are we, and how thankful ought we to be to Providence, that we hardly suffered the hundredth part of the calamity of our sister island Antigua. We have, it is true, had some vessels driven ashore, and many valuable ship stores lost, and many more certainly would have been lost; but by the assiduity of the officers, and the alertness of the troops garrisoned here, many very valuable effects were saved and restored to the unfortunate sufferers."

By the General Bill of Mortality, from Dec. 10, 1771, to Dec. 15, 1772, it appears there have been

Christened,		Buried,	
Males	9172	Males	13185
Females	8744	Females	12868
In all		In all	
17916		26053	

Whereof have died,

Under two years of age	9112
Between two and five	2894
Five and ten	1006
Ten and twenty	1056
Twenty and thirty	2086
Thirty and forty	2307
Forty and fifty	2301
Fifty and sixty	1905
Sixty and seventy	1619
Seventy and eighty	1205
Eighty and ninety	473
Ninety and a hundred	84
A hundred	2
A hundred and two	1
A hundred and three	1
A hundred and five	1

Increased in the burials this year 4273.

PROMOTIONS Civil and Military.

THOMAS MOORE, Esq. to be one of the deemsters of and in his majesty's island of Man, on the resignation of Peter John Honeywood, Esq. — Lieut. General James Oughton, to be lieutenant-governor of Antigua, in America, in the room of Francis Lord Hawley, deceased. — Stephen Cottrell to be one of the clerks of his majesty's most honourable privy-council records, in the room of Philip Sharpe, Esq. deceased. — George Chetwynd, Esq. to be one of the clerks of his majesty's most honourable privy-council, in the room of Philip Sharpe, Esq. deceased. — Sir Charles Cocks, Bart. to be clerk of his majesty's ordnance of Great Britain, on the resignation of William Rawlinson Earle, Esq. — Benjamin Langlois, Esq. to be clerk of the delivery and deliverance of all manner of artillery, ammunition, and other necessaries whatsoever, appertaining to his majesty's office of ordnance, in the room of Sir Charles Cocks, Bart. — James Wright, Esq. governor of his majesty's province of Georgia in America, created a baronet of Great Britain. — William Eddington, Esq. to be inspector of the out-ports collectors accounts within that part of Great Britain called England, with the dominion of Wales and town of Berwick upon Tweed. — Edward Hay, Esq. to be governor of the island of Barbadoes, in the room of the late Admiral Spry.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 28. **M**R. John Scott, fellow of University college, Oxford, to Miss Surtees, eldest daughter of Aubon Surtees,

Surtees, Esq. of Newcastle upon Tyne. — Gilbert Burton, Esq. of Eltham in Kent, to Miss Elizabeth Robinson, of the same place. — John Collier, Esq. of Mortimer-street, to Miss Maria Gregory, of Upper Brook-street. — 29. Humphrey Coates, Esq. to Mrs. Barrell, relict of Savage Barrell, Esq. late of Vauxhall. — James Horsley, Esq. of New Bond-street, to Miss Elizabeth Wood, of Oxford street. — Dec. 1. Francis Rider, Esq. of Mile-end, to Miss Polly Winston of Hereford. — 2. Dr. Relhan, of Great Marlborough-street, to lady Hart of St. James's-palace. — 7. Mr. William King, mercer, in King-street, Covent-garden, to Miss Hinde, of Chesterfield in Derbyshire. — 10. The rev. Mr. Buxton, of Darsham-hall, in Suffolk, to Miss Harthington, of Park-place, St. James's-street. — James Smith, Esq. of Norwich, to Miss Jackson of Spital-fields. — 14. Christopher Symmonds, Esq. of New Bond-street, to Miss Elizabeth Gordon, of Great Russell-street. — 15. Rev. Mr. Pickering, to Miss Tavers, of New-street, Spring-gardens. — 16. At Winchester, George Poyntz Ricketts, Esq. of Jamaica, to Miss Watts, daughter of the late Governor Watts. — 17. At York, Capt. Gwyllim, of the 6th regiment of dragoons, to Miss Dunbar, daughter of Mr. Dunbar, merchant in Liverpool. — 18. Rev. James Rudd, B. A. minister of St. Paul's chapel in Edinburgh, to the hon. Mrs. St. Clare, widow, daughter of the late lord Duffus. — Rev. Mr. Filewood, rector of Mickleham in Surry, to Miss Bridges, daughter of the rev. Mr. Bridges, of the city of York. — 19. John Hooper, Esq. of Potton in Bedfordshire, to Miss Alice Mason, daughter of George Mason, Esq. of Bishopsgate-street. — 20. John Mackworth, Esq. of Henrietta-street, to Miss Elizabeth Barlow of Marlborough-street. — 22. Mr. Thomas Rashleigh, attorney, of Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn, youngest brother of William Rashleigh, Esq. member of parliament for Fowey in Cornwall, to Miss Lawry, daughter of the rev. Mr. Lawry, prebendary of Rochester. — 24. At St. George's church, Hanover-square, by the dean of Peterborough, Sir Willoughby Aston, Bart. to lady Jane Henley, sister to the earl of Northampton. — 30. Capt. Charles Lisle, who commanded one of the men of war in admiral Harland's squadron, is married in Bengal to a widow lady, who went out to recover her fortune, amounting to upwards of 14,000l.

DEATHS.

Nov. 30. **A**T his brother's, at Hatburn in Northumberland, the rev. Thomas Sharp, B. D. vicar of Bartholomew the Less in London, and minister of Bambrough in Northumberland. — Dec. 1. In Charterhouse-square, the rev. Dr. Burdett, prebendary of St. Peter's, Westminster, and

rector of Guildford in Surry. — 2. Mr. Diller, master of the Horns tea-house, &c. at Hornsey-wood. — 5. At Hammer-smith, Mrs. Thornburgh, relict of Mr. George Thornburgh, late an eminent chemist and druggist in the minories. — 8. At Risley in Derbyshire, the rev. Mr. Bettinson, rector of Swarkston, master of the free grammar-school at Risley, and minister of the united churches of Risley and Breaston, in the same county; also of Stapleford in Nottinghamshire. — 9. Walter Stuart, Esq. clerk in the office of taxes, and one of the surveyors general for the duties on houses and windows. — 10. William Crowle, Esq. clerk of the peace for the West Riding of Yorkshire. — 11. At Coventry, James Birch, Esq. receiver-general for the county of Warwick. — Mrs. Pownal, daughter of Thomas Pownal, Esq. late colonel of the thirty-first regiment, and aunt to governor Pownal. — At Mile-end, Mrs. Eveleigh, wife of Mr. Thomas Eveleigh, of Great Trinity-lane. — 12. Frances Beeley, in Of-alley in the Strand, who for many years received charity from the parish and others: in her apartment, and about her bed, money was found to the amount of 800l. — 14. Of a paralytic stroke, at Bishop's-court in the Isle of Man, the right rev. Dr. Mark Hildesly, lord bishop of Sodor and Man, in the 74th year of his age. — In Dublin, the earl of Meath, who is succeeded in title and estate by his eldest son. — Near Dublin, the hon. Mr. Rochford, younger brother of the earl of Belvidere. — Suddenly, at his country-house at Little Ealing in Middlesex, Sir Robert Wilmot, of Osmaaston in the county of Derby, Bart. secretary to the earl of Hertford, lord chamberlain of his majesty's household: he is succeeded by his eldest son, now Sir Robert Wilmot. — 15. At her seat at Dunham Massey in Cheshire, in the sixty-ninth year of her age, the right hon. Mary countess dowager of Stamford: she was the only child of the right hon. George Booth, late earl of Warrington. In the year 1736 she was married to the right hon. Henry Grey, late earl of Stamford, by whom she left issue the present earl of Stamford, the hon. Booth Grey, lady Mary West, and the hon. John Grey. — 21. At her seat at Pringle-park, Yorkshire, Mrs. Danvers, widow of Howel Danvers, Esq. and only child of the late Sir Hugh Austin, of Pringle-park. — 24. At his house at Hackney, Daniel Spearson, Esq. — 26. At Shipstowe on Stower, in Worcestershire, Mr. James Taylor, master of Grigby's coffee-house behind the Royal Exchange. — Henry Hatsell, Esq. one of the benchers of the society of the Middle Temple. — 29. After eating a hearty dinner, Dr. Richard Coomers, fellow of Clare-hall, Cambridge. — 30. Mr. Cock, master of the White-lion at Highgate, who came two days before to town on a visit, seemingly in perfect health.

B—NK—TS.

JOHN Skyrin, of Whitehaven in Cumberland, merchant.
Anthony Fernandez and **Joseph da Silva**, of Savage-gardens, London, merchants and partners.
William Pryer, of Edmonton in Middlesex, wheelwright.
John Green, of Chelsea, brewer.
William Barthrop, of Ipswich, linen-draper.
John Stevens, of St. John, Southwark, sail-maker.
Clement Woodham, of Dover, woollen-draper.
William Adlard, of Red Lion court, Fleet street, London, printer.
Henry Sowley, of London, merchant.
Peter Lewis Soubergue, of Princes-street, Spital-fields, silk broker.
Henry Halfey, of Portsmouth, linen-draper.
Thomas Mecham, of Norton Falgate, linen-draper.
William Grayson, of Whitehaven in Cumberland, mercer and draper.
Robert Ridgeway, of High Holborn, stationer.
John Atkinson, of Aldersgate street, London, vintner.
Richard Rossington, of Ellenbrook in Lancashire, cushion-maker.
John Brewerton, of St. Clement Danes, tailor.
Herman Meyer and **Christian Meyer**, of Mincing-lane, London, merchants and partners.
Robert Dewley, of Coldbath fields, cornchandler.
William Carlos, of Drury-lane, tobacconist.
John Hallstone, of Witham in Essex, innholder.
Ralph Glover, of St. George, Middlesex, watch-maker.
James Fraser, of St. George, Middlesex, mariner.
Joseph Fowie, of Bristol, money scrivener.
Edward Grumley, of Bristol, vintner.
William Somerton, of Bristol, cheesemonger.
Samuel Bernard Graft, **Bartholomew Huber**, and **Paul Bernard**, of Scotland-yard, London, merchants and partners.
Thomas Littler, of Macclesfield, in the parish of Prestbury, Cheshire, chapman.
Thomas Byrd, of Uffculme in Devon, serge-maker.
Timothy Brown, of Carlisle, factor.
Joseph Ennever, of Mile-end Old Town in Middlesex, cowkeeper.
Charles Townsend, of Devizes in Wilts, cheese-factor and hofer.
Joseph Hopkins Saunders, of Bradford in Wilts, clothier.
John Bunn, of Lewisham in Kent, dealer.
John Whible, late of Fleet street, and formerly of Pater-noster-row, bookseller.
Levy Wolfe, of Cock and Hoop-yard, Houndsditch, London, jeweller.
William Sharrow, of Ripon in Yorkshire, flax-dresser.
William Locon, of Ripon in Yorkshire, cooper.
George Joseph Higginson, of York-street in Oxford-road, jeweller.
John Wilson, of Cherry garden street in Rotherhithe, mariner.
John Charles Long, of Chigwell in Essex, sales-man.
Edward Cooper, of Aldgate, London, hatter, hoser and glover.
Henry Phelps, of Fulham, lighterman.
James Hunt, of Southampton-buildings, Holborn, tailor.
David Alvarenga, of Southwark, lapidary and jeweller.
Augustine Palgrave Oldman, of Ingoldeshorpe in Norfolk, merchant.
Richard Norris, of York, silversmith and chapman.
Isaac Attwood, late of Wednesbury in Staffordshire, surgeon and apothecary.
James Hill, of Sldmouth in Devonshire, tanner.
Alexander Smith, of St. George in Middlesex, tailor.
John Robertson and **William Turner**, of St. Paul's Church-yard, London, chandlers and copartners.
William Gorney, of Viller's-street in York-buildings, tailor.
Samuel Cox, of the Maze in Southwark, grocer.
John West, of St. Mary la bonne, coachmaker.
James Bramble, of Oxford-road, ironmonger.

John Watson and **Thomas Thorley**, of Rainow in Cheshire, button-merchants and copartners.
Richard Edge, of Wednesbury in Staffordshire, gunmaker.
Samuel Livesay, of Walsall in Staffordshire, cabinet-maker.
Edmund Smith, of Underwood, in the parish of Rochdale in Lancashire, and **John Teasdale**, of Manchester, paper merchants and partners.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Birmingham, Dec. 21.

ON Saturday last a man dressed in black, and pretending to be a clergyman, was apprehended at an inn in Worcester, on suspicion of being one John Godfrey, a pretended clergyman, charged in justice Fielding's list, with a fraud committed at Chichester, in Sussex. On his examination he persisted in being a clergyman, and said he had his education at Cambridge: but being questioned by a gentleman present, well acquainted with that university, he gave such unsatisfactory answers as shewed plainly that he was an impostor. It appearing that he came from Gloucester, and resided there for upwards of two months last past, a messenger was dispatched with notice of his being apprehended; whereupon, on Monday morning, several tradesmen of Gloucester, of whom he had obtained goods under false pretences, arrived with a warrant for securing him; on which he was delivered up, and in the afternoon conducted to Gloucester, under an escorte of the tradesmen who came to fetch him. He has assumed the several names of Kemp, Sykes, and Warburton, and always passed for a clergyman. About a fortnight ago he advertised under the name of Kemp, B. A. that he had taken a house at Gloucester, to be opened as an academy, and had given orders for the fitting up and furnishing this house, but he absconding on Friday last, a suspicion arose that he was a cheat, and Sir John Fielding's list was referred to. The day before he left Gloucester, being under the hands of his barber, and observing that he had a watch, desired to have it lent him for that day, as he was going (as he said) to dine with the dean, pretending at the same time that his own watch was repairing. He walked from Gloucester to Tewkesbury, where he sold the barber's watch, and then took a post-chaise to Worcester.

Ipswich, Dec. 25. The following letter has been received by the gentlemen in the malt-trade of this town, from their respective factors in London:

London, Dec. 17.

"Sir, The corn-trade of late being in a very material degree different from what it formerly was, both as to the credit which is given the buyers in general, and the very great advance in price; on which account a greater risque of bad debt arises, and necessarily a much larger capital to carry it on is required;

required; it is therefore found to be expedient to advance the commission on malt to 1 s. per quarter, to commence on the 1st day of January next. And further to justify this resolution it is necessary to mention, that the commission of 6 d. per quarter was established at a time when malt did not bear much above half the present value; and every purchaser, whether distiller or brewer, paid nearly ready money, whereas the credit now given to both is greatly extended; and the late failures must sufficiently convince every man conversant in business of the necessity of our determination, and that it is not in the power of any person to pursue with integrity the business of a malt-factor but upon the new establishment. I am, &c."

Their printed Answer.

Sir, Ipswich, Dec. 23.

"Supposing your commission to be too small, yet the contemptible treatment shewn to me in yours of the 17th inst. determines me totally to reject the contents thereof. I am, &c."

A M E R I C A.

Charles-Town, South Carolina, Oct. 26.

WE are informed by letters from New Orleans, that the French inhabitants are withdrawing themselves from that country as fast as they can: most of them go to St. Domingo, the French king being at the expence of transporting them, with their negroes and effects.

From the Boston (New England) Gazette.

Boston, Nov. 9. On Wednesday last the freeholders and other inhabitants of this town met at Faneuil-hall, to enquire into the grounds of a report that prevails, that salaries are annexed to the officers of the judges of the superior court of judicature of this province, whereby they are rendered independent of the grants of the general assembly for their support; contrary to ancient and invariable usage. And to take such measures thereupon, as might be proper on so alarming an occasion.

After the coolest and most candid debate and deliberation, the town came into a very full vote (there being only one hand held up against it, and that through inattention as the person assures us) to prepare a decent and respectful message to the governor, for the first purpose aforesaid. And in the afternoon a message was prepared and approved; and William Phillips, Esq, the Hon. James Otis, Esq. Mr. Samuel Adams, Dr. Joseph Warren, Dr. Benjamin Church, Mr. Timothy Newell, and Col. Thomas Marshall, were appointed to wait on his excellency with the same. Then the meeting was adjourned until the Friday following.

The message above-mentioned is as follows:

"May it please your excellency,

"The freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Boston legally assembled in

Faneuil-Hall, beg leave to acquaint your excellency, that a report has prevailed, which they have reason to apprehend is well grounded, that stipends are affixed to the offices of the judges of the superior court of judicature, &c. of this province, whereby they are become independent of the grants of the general assembly for their support, contrary to ancient and invariable usage.

"This report has spread an alarm among all considerate persons who have heard of it, in town and country; being viewed as tending rapidly to compleat the system of their slavery; which originated in the house of commons of Great-Britain, assuming a power and authority to give and grant the monies of the colonists without their consent, and against their repeated remonstrances. And, as the judges hold their places during pleasure, this establishment appears big with fatal evils, so obvious that it is needless to trespass on your excellency's time in mentioning them.

"It is therefore the humble and earnest request of the town, that your excellency would be pleased to inform them, whether you have received any such advice relating to a matter so deeply interesting to the inhabitants of this province, which gives you assurance that such an establishment has been, or is likely to be made."

The next day his excellency was pleased to send the following answer.

"Gentlemen, It is by no means proper for me to lay before the inhabitants of any town whatsoever, in consequence of their votes and proceedings in a town meeting, any part of my correspondence as governor of the province, or to acquaint them whether I have or have not received any advices relating to the public affairs of the government. This reason alone, if your address to me had been in other respects unexceptionable, would have been sufficient to restrain me from complying with your desire.

"I shall always be ready to gratify the inhabitants of the town of Boston upon every regular application to me on business of public concernment to the town, as far as I shall have it in my power consistent with fidelity to the trust which his majesty has reposed in me.

Province House,

Oct. 30, 1772.

T. HUTCHINSON."

The foregoing answer being read, it was moved that a committee be appointed to prepare a petition to the governor, praying that he would be pleased to order a session of the general assembly at the time to which it now stands prorogued.

The petition was accordingly presented; and the governor gave the committee an answer in writing, containing several reasons why he could not comply with their request. His reply was read at the town meeting on Monday; and the question put, whether the same

same be satisfactory to the town? which passed in the negative *nem. con.*

They then resolved, that the town have a right to petition the king or his representative for the redress of such grievances as they feel, &c. and to communicate their sentiments to other towns; and appointed a committee of correspondence for that purpose.

On the third of November the governor farther prorogued the general assembly from the 2d of December to the 6th of January.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS. RUSSIA.

Petersburgh, Oct. 1.

WHEN Mr. Durand, envoy from the court of France, had his first audience of the empress, he addressed her imperial majesty in the following manner.

"The letters of credence which I have the honour to present to your imperial majesty will testify the extreme desire of the king, my master, to cultivate the friendship of your majesty. And who would not wish to have the friendship of a power that regulates the fate of so many states? A sovereign whose genius and courage make Europe and Asia tremble; a sovereign who teaches kings what will and power united in one person may effect, in the execution of great designs."

POLAND.

Warsaw, Dec. 8. Several letters from Prussia say, that a Prussian fiscal has been all over the new acquisitions of that court, and has announced to all the senators of Polish Prussia, that they are not to go to Warsaw to assist at the assembly of the senate, under pain of having their effects and prerogative confiscated. As these senators will be summoned by the king and the republic to assist at that assembly, one may judge of the embarrassment they are in about it.

Other letters mention, that the inhabitants of Dantzick flatter themselves that certain powers will interpose their good offices for them, to obtain the freedom of their port on the footing it was before the change in affairs; but in the interim it is certain that the Black Eagles are taken down from Scharpau, a territory under the jurisdiction of Dantzick.

GERMANY.

Cologne, Dec. 7. It is strongly reported here, that two of the three powers who divided Poland have generously desisted from their pretensions to that kingdom, by the persuasion of a great court, and that they have even engaged to bring over the third to follow their example, which will not be difficult, if the report be true, that they have already offered to restore things as they were, on being allowed an annual sum of money. It

is likewise said, that Count Wielohorski is gone to Landshut only on this subject, and that Count Branicki is gone to Paris in quality of envoy from the king and republic only, with a commission relative to so great an event. If this is confirmed, it is not to be doubted but peace will soon be concluded between Russia and the Porte.

TURKEY.

Constantinople, Nov. 3. Letters from Syria, dated Sept. 20, advise, that the Cheik Daher and Aly Bey were still employed in the siege of Jaffa, the inhabitants of which continued to make a vigorous defence; that an army was preparing at Damascus to relieve that town, and at the same time to besiege Seyde, which is still in the possession of the Cheik Daher.

FRANCE.

Paris, Dec. 12. Letters from Marseilles mention a riot having happened at the play-house there, occasioned at first by the comedians persisting in representing a piece highly disagreeable to the public. Some grenadiers were called in to quell the riot, but expressly directed not to fire, that no accident might happen. However, a person in the pit, who, having expected a disturbance, had armed himself with a pistol, as soon as he saw the grenadiers, shot one of them dead. They were then ordered to fire, by which means several persons were killed and wounded. This affair has thrown the whole town of Marseilles into consternation.

SPAIN.

Malaga, Nov. 10. Don Louis Velasques, Marquis de Valda-Flores, died here suddenly the 9th instant. He was well known by several learned works, but more so by the disgrace which he incurred during the troubles at Madrid in 1766. After being confined some time in the castle of Alicant, he was sent to Africa, from whence he was released but last year, and permitted by his Catholic majesty to reside at Malaga.

HOLLAND.

Hague, Nov. 26. The States-General have forbidden all merchants and retailers in the province of Kirk to purchase, or cause to be purchased, from the 17th instant, any kind of grain, except in open markets properly appointed for that purpose.

BARBARY.

Tunis, Nov. 5. Several vessels, of different nations, have lately arrived in our road, in order to purchase corn; but our government continues in the resolution to forbid the exportation, and has hitherto allowed the French and English merchants to take on board very small quantities, and those at such extravagant prices as must frustrate all their hopes of gain.

I N D E X

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